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Fisherman
—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

March 24th—30th, 1983
Volume 18, Number 12

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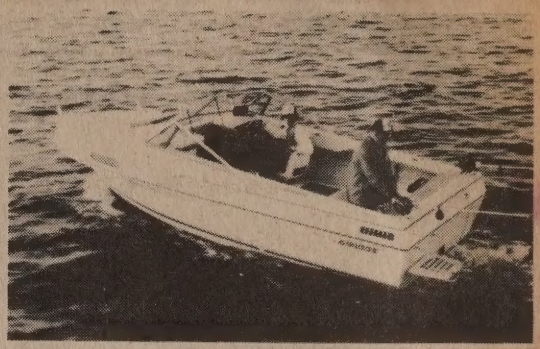

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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 18, Number 12 March 24th, 1983

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ABOUT THE COVER:

The Metropolitan area provides angling opportunities for people of all ages and from all walks of life. See Ed Haring's article, "Concrete Vista," on page 18. Cover photo by Ed Haring.

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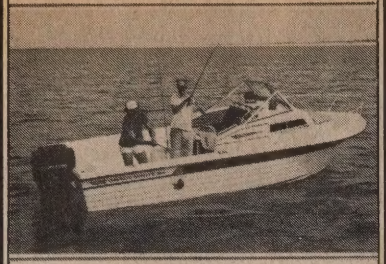

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ICCAT MODIFIES ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA MORATORIUM

The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) held its Third Special Meeting in Funchal, Madeira Island, Portugal, November 10-17, 1982. The meeting was preceded by a meeting of ICCAT's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS). The Commission reviewed the two-year moratorium on bluefin tuna fishing in the western Atlantic adopted in 1981. On the basis of the SCRS findings, the Commission increased the total allowable catch for this area to 2,660 metric tons (mt) from the 1,160 mt level in effect during 1982. The U.S. share of the catch will increase from 605 mt to 1,387.3 mt. The share for Canada and Japan will be 573.3 mt and 699.4 mt, respectively.

The concern for a continued low level of abundance of small bluefin tuna also resulted in a decision to limit the catch of bluefin smaller than 120 centimeters in length to be no more than 15 percent in weight of the catch limit in the western Atlantic. During 1983, there will be no directed fishery in spawning areas such as the Gulf of Mexico.

Virtual population analyses, which were improved since last year's meeting, were used in two different papers which produced some differing results in estimating the population of younger and older fish. Scientists were unable to agree at what catch level a decline in population will occur. One view was that juvenile levels are 21 percent of the 1960 level, with a likely further decline in adult abundance. The other view was that spawning biomass and potential will increase until 1983 and a decreasing trend will occur thereafter. The scientists also were of the opinion that the 1982 catches were insufficient to monitor the stock and concluded that the "weight of evidence suggests that the catch levels for monitoring should be conservative."

In its report to the Commission the SCRS concluded that the assessment on which its 1981 recommendations were based could no longer be used because of changes in the historical data reported during 1982-82 and because the stock-recruitment relation used is now considered to be "erroneous." This relation and the surplus production concept do not impact estimates of the present status of the stock but do affect projections of future stock abundance.

Two analyses presented by Japanese scientists and United States scientists, assumed two temporally and partially separate spawning areas with a small variable interchange between the two stocks, the magnitude or frequency of which is not known. Other assumptions were also the same; however, the two approaches employed different assumptions in a number of critical areas. As a result of the use of these different assumptions (e.g., catch data, starting F, and stock-recruitment relation), the United States opinion concluded: (1) that the abundance of juvenile and adult fish in the western Atlantic stock has decreased steadily since 1960, (2) that juvenile levels are 21 percent of the 1960 level, and (3) that if recruitment remains at the 1975-1980 level, the abundance of the adult stock will continue to decline at any fishing rate.

The Japanese opinion concluded: (1) that adult stock abundance increased dramatically from 1974-1977, decreasing afterwards somewhat but remaining at levels much higher than those prior to 1975, (2) that some decrease in recruitment and juvenile stock size has occurred since 1975 with 1975-1980 recruitment levels being lower than in all previous years, (3) that spawning biomass and potential will increase until 1983 with a decreasing trend thereafter, and (4) that annual removals at the 1981 level will not drive the stock size and spawning potential below past average levels.

In its evaluation of the two opinions the SCRS noted that in the Japanese opinion, 1977-1980 cohort abundance levels are likely to be inflated while mortality is underestimated, and the stock size overestimated. The SCRS found the stock-recruitment relation used in the U.S. opinion to be erroneous and that stock size projections for 1984-1992 may contain significant bias.

The SCRS Report concluded that "risk is involved in the face of uncertainty as to an appropriate catch level in considering the present stock condition." Therefore, the SCRS was unable to determine whether a 6,000 mt catch (opposed by the U.S.) will cause a decline or whether a decline will occur regardless of any catch. Also the SCRS noted that "in the west, there exists concern that 1982 catches are insufficient to monitor the stock, but the weight of evidence suggests that catch levels for monitoring should be conservative."

The SCRS also recommended an inter-sessional meeting of an ad hoc committee in Japan in April or May 1983 to discuss and resolve problems related to analyzing bluefin tuna data. The problems to be addressed include: (1) the applicaiton of size samples to catches in order to develop the best possible estimates of the length distribution of the total catch, (2) estimating age distributions from size samples, (3) consideration of sex ratio in the analyses, and (4) derivation of techniques more applicable to bluefin fisheries assessments.

The bluefin tuna population in the western Atlantic Ocean is in dreadful condition. No matter how well the

data are massaged for immediate gain the long-range outlook is bleak. As long as the population trend is downward **any** allocation has to be viewed as overfishing. It becomes problematic whether the 2,660 mt harvest for monitoring the stock is justifiable.

The plight of the Atlantic bluefin tuna stock in the western Atlantic Ocean leads one to ponder the value of international management of the stocks. It seems that the fish stocks become a pawn in the game of diplomacy and soon become a bargaining chip. The exclusion of tuna from the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act looms ominuously...

SURF FISHERMEN SHOULD NOTE PARKING AND TRAVELING RESTRICTIONS AT JONES BEACH DURING MARATHON

During the marathon weekend, the West End of Jones Beach State Park will be closed to vehicular traffic from sunset on Saturday, April 30, until approximately 1PM on Sunday, May 1st. Fishing areas accessible from West End Parking Field #2 and the West End Boat Basin will therefore be inaccessible to those travelling to Jones Beach State Park; however, the fishing piers and bait shop at Field #10 will be open to accommodate those interested in fishing during that period of time. Parking Field #6 will also be opened and available for surf fishing.

YOUNG BOATERS SAFETY COURSE IN EAST ISLIP

With the summer boating season upon us, many young people will be taking to our waters for many different summer activities. Whether it be water skiing, pleasure boating, fishing or beaching, it is important that these young people know the legal requirements for the boats they operate as well as the rules that govern their use. With this being a safe way to boating, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary in East Islip will be offering the New York State approved Young Boaters Safety Course. Flotilla 1-3 in Islip will present the class on Thursday evenings from 8PM until 10PM, starting on April 14th at the East Islip High School on Redmen Street in Islip Terrace. The class will run for 5 weeks, finishing up on Thursday, May 12th. Young people between the ages of 10 and 16 are required by New York law to have this class if they operate a boat on N.Y. waters without an adult present. Upon completion of the course, a license and certificate is presented to those who pass an exam.

Whether you own the boat or just ride with a friend, the rules are important enough that everyone should know them. If you plan to operate a boat and are between 10 and 16 you are required to have the course. If you boat with a friend, you should also take the course.

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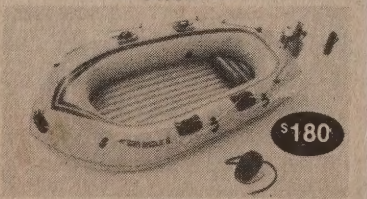

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ESPN OUTDOORS TO PREMIERE IN APRIL

"ESPN Outdoors," a show for hard-core American fishermen, will debut on ESPN on Tuesday, April 5th at 9:30 a.m. (EST). The weekly half-hour program, which will also include occasional features on hunting, will provide the outdoorsmen of America with helpful gaming information and instruction.

The show will be filmed at popular fishing and hunting sites throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and Central America.

Hosting "ESPN Outdoors" will be Golden Richards, a former player in the National Football League and a long-time proponent of outdoor living. Richard, proficient with fly, spinning and casting rods, and a world-class marksman, will share his knowledge about the ways of fish and game. He frequently will be joined by a celebrity guest adept at fishing or hunting.

The debut of "ESPN Outdoors" follows closely the addition of "The Fishin Hole" to the ESPN schedule. "The Fishin Hole," which airs Sunday mornings at 11:30 and Wednesday evening at 6:30, features veteran angler Jerry McKinnis taking noted guests to popular fishing sites across North America.

"ESPN Outdoors" is produced for ESPN by Pro-Serv Television. The show will air Tuesday morning at 9:30 and be repeated Saturday mornings at 7:30.

HUDSON ANGLERS SHARK TOURNAMENT

The Hudson Anglers Tournament is a non-profit sporting event designed to: encourage and promote rod and reel angling, good sportsmanship and fair competition, aid marine science by providing specimens for research and laboratory study and to catch only a limited number of fish and to tag and release the remainder. It is open to all clubs and individuals, both male and female. All entrants must be registered with the Hudson Anglers at Hudson Point Fishing Station headquarters. The entry fee of $75 per boat includes $45 to be returned as prize money and $30 to be used to defray expenses of printing, mailing, signs plus (2 portions bait or chum).

Captain's meeting 6-17-83, 7:30PM at Town of Hempstead Marina, Freeport, N.Y. (Guy Lombardo). Captain or at least one crew member must attend. Contest is limited to any species of shark. No other fish will be considered. The three heaviest sharks, regardless of species, will be declared the winners. All decisions of the judges will be final. Weigh-in is by 6:30 PM at Town of Hempstead Long Creek Marina (Guy Lombardo Marina), foot of Hudson Channel, Freeport, N.Y.

Prize Money: 1st prize 60%; 2nd prize 25%, 3rd prize, 15%. Additional prizes will be given according to weight. Ask for free dockage information by phone. For further information, rules, applications, call Ronnie Bauer at Hudson Pt., 516-623-9808 or 516-378-1557.

FARRAGUT STRIPER CLUB ELECTS '83 SLATE

The Farragut Striper Club is proud to announce its newly elected Executive Board for the 1983 fishing season as follows: Hank Sudak, President; John Fritz, Vice President; Barry Bergmann, Treasurer; and Ken Kassan, Secretary. Our Board of Directors also includes Sal Cacavalle, George Wade, Al Lefkowitz, Mike Mazzatta and Richard Brown.

OCEANS PROGRAM

"Oceans," a slide program, will be presented by the Marine Environmental Council of Long Island, Inc., on Thursday, March 31, 8PM at the Emma A. Clark Memorial Library, 120 Main St., Setauket.

The program will be followed by a brief discussion of marine environmental issues affecting Long Island. The meeting is open to the public and individuals are encouraged to join in working with this volunteer, non-profit group. For more information, call George Wilde, SU 5-3139.

FRANK JOHNSON TO APPEAR AT FISHERMAN OFFSHORE SEMINAR ON MARCH 31ST

Frank Johnson, manufacturer of Mold Craft Softhead Lures, was a big hit at the recent Sportfishing Forum—both as a speaker and in demonstrating his unique method of snelling 300 pound mono for big game rigs. Due to the reception there, Frank has agreed to join Al Ristori at The Fisherman's Offshore Fishing Seminar at the Holiday Inn, Hauppauge on March 31st. In addition to sharing the tips he's picked up relative to high speed trolling around the world, Johnson will teach the snelling technique. Heavy mono will be provided so participants can try it themselves. Reservations can be made by calling The Fisherman, at (516) 725-4200.

FIRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE

Park Ranger Laura Yeager will present a slide program about the Fire Island National Seashore at the monthly meeting of the Marine Environmental Council of L.I., on Wednesday, March 30, at 8PM. The program will be held at the Tackapausha Museum, Washington Avenue, Seaford (next to Pathmark). The meeting is open to all and volunteers are welcome to work with this group on marine environmental programs.

MECLI—we're making waves. For more information, call George Wilde, SU 5-3139.

THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE:

LINGUINE WITH A TWIST

by Eileen Regina

No, it's not a recipe for some crazy mixed drink, but a name I dreamed up for a spin-off on an old favorite recipe of ours that combines linguine with a clam and broccoli sauce. It's simple to make and delicious to eat, and I'm sure you will enjoy it as much as we. Best of all, you can make it any time—it's not seasonal, and you can use canned minced clams instead of fresh clams with no noticeable loss fo the palate. Of course, if your guy is like my two tons of fun, nothing but fresh clams will do, so if he insists I let him buy them and shuck them for me. It isn't necessary to shuck the clams 'cause you can steam 'em open, then mince them, but Jumbo doesn't know that and I won't tell him.

LINGUINE WITH A TWIST

Ingredients:

1 bunch broccoli
1/4 cup olive oil
1 red pepper, seeded, de-ribbed and finely chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 cans (7½ oz. ea.) minced clams
1/2 tsp. oregano
1/8 tsp red pepper flakes
salt to taste
freshly ground black pepper to taste
1 tbsp. parsley, Italian, finely chopped
1 lb. linguine

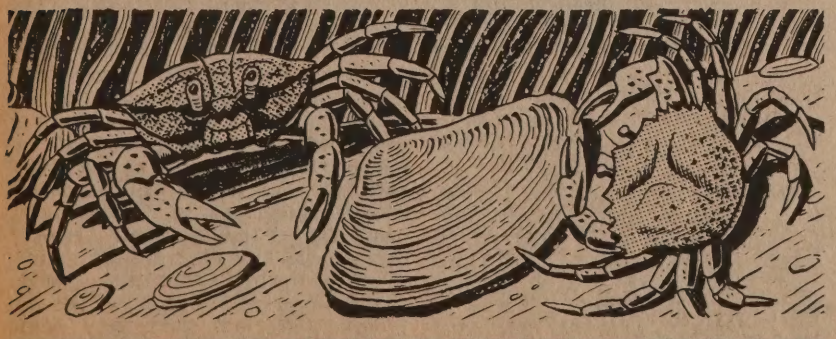
Trim broccoli, pare stalks; separate head into florets, chop stalks. Steam broccoli in boiling salted water until crispy-tender, about 8 minutes. Drain in a colander under cold water to stop the cooking process, set aside.

Heat oil in a heavy skillet, then add red pepper and garlic. Cook for 1 minute. Stir in reserved broccoli, clams and all their juices, oregano, pepper flakes, salt, and pepper. Turn heat off and set pan aside.

Cook linguine in boiling salted water until they reach the hardness you like best. We go for "al dente," which is Italian for "firm to the teeth," or something like that anyhow! If you have any cooking problems with pasta, simply follow the directions on the box and you'll be all right. Remove linguine, drain well in colander.

Heat sauce through, toss with linguine in a large serving bowl. Sprinkle with parsley and serve immediately (serves 4). The usual Italian-oriented accompaniments go well here too. Don't forget to have breadsticks and lit candles on the table, and serve your red wine slightly chilled in true wine glasses—don't kill the effect by using jelly glasses, or those free glasses you got from MacDonald's! You don't actually need bread if you have bread sticks, but if you want it, go for a big, round, crusty loaf that comes from an Italian bakery—those commercial imitations just don't cut it.

For salad, shred the hearts of chicory and escarole in a bowl, one that was rubbed with garlic beforehand, and drizzle-in oil and red wine vinegar. Dessert should be Italian pastry, such as canole or rum baba, washed down by espresso coffee laced with anisette. Enjoy!



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NEW TUNA REGS NEED CHANGES

by Al Ristori

The newly proposed bluefin tuna regulations threaten to eliminate a large sector of rod and reel anglers from this year's fishery.

As detailed in columns published here over the winter, U.S. scientists failed to carry the day at the ICCAT meeting last fall with their statistics indicating a continued decline in bluefin tuna stocks. The Japanese scientists had their own figures which showed an increase in adult spawning biomass and potential until 1983—though with a decreasing trend thereafter. With the Canadians also wanting more fish, the U.S. scientific position was rejected and the tuna quota more than doubled for all parties. That's good news for all participants in the fishery, though many American tuna scientists still feel that it isn't in the best interests of the species.

Nevertheless, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has decided to go along with the full exploitation concept and has allocated the U.S. quota of 1,529 short tons to various segments of the fishery. This is a huge increase from the very restricted 667 short tons allowed last year, and it means more for everyone. However, the regulations as proposed do not assure the New York Bight area of a season—though they do provide a financial bonanza for the few individuals involved in the purse seine fishery, which will be the principal beneficiary of the new rules. Though anglers may initially rub their hands in glee at the thought of being able to take more giants this year, my feeling is that they will gain very little through these regulations while an

already stressed species is further endangered. Read on, form your own opinion—and send your comments immediately to NMFS, Northeast Region, Management Division, State Fish Pier, Gloucester, MA 01930-3097.

Recreational angling for tuna in the NMFS regulations refers only to the fishery for school tuna. The rod and reel effort for giant tuna falls into the hand gear category, along with handlines and harpoons. First, let's look at the school tuna since there's virtually no change in that area. While other categories are getting big increases, anglers fishing for school tuna will have to work within the same restrictions as last year. That involves a quota of only 99 short tons, with the daily catch limit of four per angler per day. Since the school tuna angling catch each of the last two years was only 93 short tons, this doesn't seem unreasonable at first glance. However, a closer analysis indicates that our area could get completely shut out of this fishery should the southern portion get another good season.

School tuna move in off the Virginia coast in June before working their way up the coast. With no purse seiners harassing them last spring, the tuna stayed down there into early July and provided great fishing. Most of the quota must have been filled in that area because hardly any were seen off the New Jersey and Long Island coasts—if you discount the mediums caught while chumming for giants off Block Island late in the summer. Purse seine spotter pilots told me that there were big schools far offshore last summer, but they were too far for the inshore boats—and were overrun by the canyon fleets. The fact of the matter is that years of intensive purse seining have depleted the school bluefin stocks to the point that there simply isn't the spread of fish once available. If the few schools stay inshore we'll have fine fishing. If they follow last year's pattern, we won't have to worry about the quota. However, should they come in off Virginia and stay along the coast all the way the school tuna season could be shut down here before it ever really gets started.

NMFS is operating within a restriction limiting the harvest of Atlantic bluefin tuna 47 inches or less to 15 percent in the western Atlantic. That would be 229 short tons—still far more than the quota for the recreational fishery. Therefore, it doesn't seem unreasonable (given the absence of a directed purse seine fishery for school tuna) to increase the quota to at least 150 tons, a figure more in line with catches a few years ago. The continuing daily limit of four per angler will restrict the catch, and the monitoring effort will be better served by allowing the fishery to continue.

Rod and reel fishermen will be able to catch more giant tuna this year in the hand gear category—if they can get them before the handliners and harpooners do. The hand gear quota is up from 310 short tons to 650. That will permit a catch slightly greater than the 645 tons of 1980 and 550 tons in 1981. Therefore, NMFS is reverting to the previous system of daily quotas. Rather than one per boat per **week**, the season will start with one per **day** per boat! On August 7th, NMFS will review the total catch and if less than 30 percent of the hand gear quota has been taken, the figure will go to two per day. If by some outside chance there are any giants left in the quota by September 7th, NMFS will take one of several actions. If 85 percent or more have been caught the quota will go back to one per day. Between 70 and 85 percent, it will stay at two per day. If between 60 and 70 percent, the quota will jump to three per day, and if under 60 percent, you'll be able to take four per day.

The basic problem here is that it will take a complete collapse of the fishery to keep it open beyond Labor Day. Last year (with just under half of the new quota) the season was closed on September 10th despite the fact that boats were limited to just one tuna a week throughout the season. Now the same boats can take at least seven per week to fill slightly more than double the quota! It's a great deal for NMFS' neighbors in Gloucester, as their season starts early. It should also permit at least some fishing in the Block Island area, since that gets hot around mid-August. However, it's very likely to result in another shutout for the Metropolitan New York Area—where the fishery in recent years hasn't gotten started until after Labor Day. Last year's fiasco can be forgiven because NMFS officials sincerely believed that the one per boat per week quota would easily carry the season right to the end. Even though I argued for a separate quota for the western areas last year, I couldn't fault the sincerity of their position. However, if the fishery off Block Island and points north is anything like it was last year, I can't see how the quota is going to last long enough to allow for a realistic season in the Mud Hole off the Jersey Coast.

NMFS has taken the position that it can't take care of all the special problems of various fisheries. However, that didn't stop it from setting up a separate quota for harpooners who opt for that category. It was a poor year for harpooning in 1982, but those who opted for the harpoon quota (rather than sharing in the hand gear category) made out very well—finally filling their quota with very expensive fish on October 19th. If the harpooners can get a special quota, why can't the rod and reel fishermen of the Metropolitan Area?

However, the deal the harpooners get is small potatoes. If you want to learn how to walk away with most of the marbles, check out the deal the purse seiners have. It's undisputed that almost all of our problems with bluefin tuna can be layed at the feet of

(Continued on next page.)

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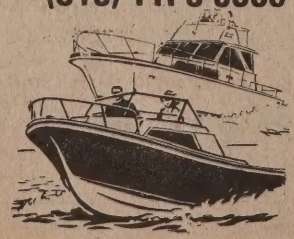

greedy purse seiners who have decimated the fishery since the 60s. Sure, the Japanese longliners added to the problem starting in 1973—but 90 percent of the damage was done with purse seines. Even after controls started, the purse seiners kept getting such large allocations of school tuna that the species has not been able to fully recover. They regularly overfished their quota (once actually doubling it) and invariably got away with it. Last year it appeared that their greed had finally caught up with them. The U.S. catch was restricted to a monitoring system and our scientists stated that purse seining was of no value whatsoever in that process. The purse seiners were given 165 tons of school tuna as by-catch in the skipjack tuna fishery. Though that was probably 100 tons more than they could possibly justify as by-catch, they were restricted to 10 percent by-catch per trip and it appeared we could live with the system. Then, after the hearings were over, a little provision was slipped in to allow the seiners to take that whole 165 tons in giants if they didn't catch it in school tuna.

Naturally, purse seiners managed to neatly avoid those low-priced schoolies and loaded up off Block Island with around 1,000 giants (about four times what the hand gear fleet caught) in September. How many illegal mediums were killed in order to get that many giants will never be known, but since the fish were thoroughly mixed up at the time, it's not unreasonable to suspect that they killed as many as they kept!

To top it all off, the purse seiners far exceeded their quota during the slaughter. In discussing this with NMFS officials last fall I asked how they could get away with this. The answer was that the overage would be subtracted from their quota this year. Check out this penalty: the purse seiners now have a directed giant tuna quota of 300 tons, as opposed to no directed quota at all last year! Wait a minute, that's not all. They also have another 140 tons of incidental catch for the skipjack fishery—which they can convert into giant tuna. If they do catch schoolies in the skipjack fishery you can be sure they'll dump them in order to load up on $2 a pound giants! Our criminal justice system often lets wrongdoers go free, but NMFS goes a step further and showers them with rewards!

There are a few other little things about this plan which you should be aware of. Though anglers are still allowed one medium in their bag limit of four school tuna, a new rule stipulates that only one may be taken on a boat each day. That rule is directed toward preventing a directed fishery for mediums such as occurred off Block Island last year. Yet I doubt if all the mediums caught on rod and reel there last year even came close to the number killed by the purse seiners! While anglers are being cut down on mediums, the purse seiners got an increase in their by-catch allowance of mediums from 3 to 10.6% of weight per trip. The new rule also discriminates against the party boat fishery in the Mud Hole off the Jersey coast. Obviously, no one is going to pay a high fare in order to put his rod away after the first customer catches a fish.

The idea of protecting 250 pound tuna and allowing virtually unlimited slaughter of 350 pounders that are closer to their first spawning (if not already spawners) makes no sense to me from a biological or management viewpoint. It wouldn't be so bad if the five purse seiners involved sought out older fish, but they instead concentrate on the young spawners—eliminating the very fish which could overcome the damage the purse seiners have done over the years. I'll gladly go along with any legitimate conservation scheme, but can't endorse any plan which will severely impact on anglers while giving a few individuals with guaranteed shares of the fishery a virtual license to steal from the other 10,000-plus boats involved.

There are still other provisions of this plan, including an "in-season adjustment amount" which seems to be a means of letting the purse seiners exceed even the latest incredible quotas and do it legally. That portion of the quota could be used to save some fish for western areas, but there's no provision for that—and it won't happen unless anglers flood NMFS with letters.

All of the foregoing should make it clear that I think the quotas this year are extremely unfair. Yet, this doesn't imply that the people making these plans in Gloucester are "bad guys." Quite the contrary. Everyone I've met is concerned with the fishery and would actually like to have a very tight conservation system. However, when it comes to dividing up quotas they must respond to pressures. As previously noted, the Massachusetts hand gear fishery will make out just fine under the new quota. Being a little later, and impacted by a huge increase in pressure, the Block Island fishery may get cut short. Prospects to the west are, obviously, very poor. It's not merely coincidence that it works that way. Those who yell loudest get the most attention (look at what the purse seiners get away with!) and the Metropolitan region angler has traditionally been content to sit on his hands and take what he gets. If that's what YOU do this year, you'll get exactly what you deserve—another shortchanging!

Write, phone or telegram your comments **right now** to NMFS, Northeast Region, Management Division, State Fish Pier, Gloucester, MA 01930-3097. Mark your envelope "comments on bluefin tuna proposed rulemaking." Phone calls can be directed to Bill Jerome, Jr. and Dave Crestin, (617) 281-3600. Speak now or hold your fire next summer should you end up on the outside looking in!

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THE TIN BOAT ECONOMISER

by Kevin Bogan

Small boats or runabouts up to 18 feet in length have become a large part of the fishing fleets in major salt and fresh water ports. They consist of wooden rowboats, fiberglass skiffs and aluminum boats with V or flat bottoms which are better known as "tin boats."

Tin boats are growing more popular for a variety of reasons. They are inexpensive when compared to fiberglass and are very light in weight making them easy to launch or to carry on a car roof top. The lightweight feature also makes them economical by way of low fuel consumption, increased speed and maneuverability.

I once had a tin boat myself and eventually graduated to a 15 foot fiberglass. Either way they are both small and extra fishing room is hard to find.

For comfortable fishing in a smaller craft a short five to six foot rod is best. The shorter length makes it easier to gaff or net fish and helps to keep you from hitting your fishing partner with the end of your rod. Don't be fooled into thinking that a long rod is necessary for casting. A six foot rod will cast 150 feet easily and that's more than enough to be effective. Economy will also be the goal in this rod.

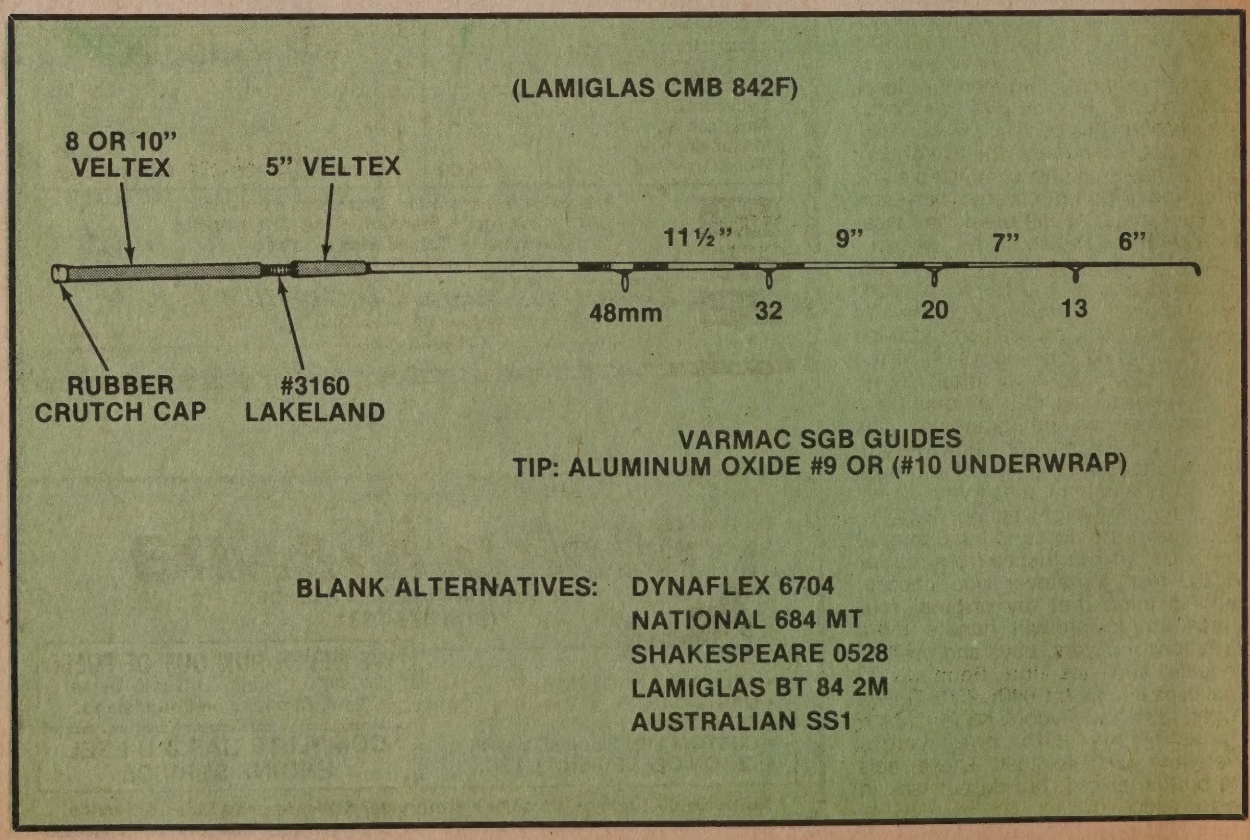
The Blank: The Lamiglas CMB-84-2F is a moderately priced blank, but it is in the LTD series which Lamiglas claims to be their finest. In my opinion they are the best all purpose fiberglass blanks made in their price range. The quality and fishability of these blanks are rarely disputed. The blank is originally seven feet in length. For a 6 foot rod, cut eight inches off the butt and four inches off the tip. The blank is labeled as fast, but typical of a Lamiglas, it will soften up to a medium action when needed in a fight with a fish.

The blank is chestnut brown and has an **unsanded** spiral finish. The unsanded finish does make for a strong and a more durable rod. And while they are not as cosmetically appealing, they do make a super fishing rod.

Shakespeare leaves most of their blanks unsanded and it's definitely a good feature. I have often seen people pick a shiny white blank only because it's white, when I knew all too well that a certain brown or honey-colored blank would better fit their expectations in the field.

The Reel Seat: The Lakeland #3160 reel seat is probably the most widely used reel seat ever used. It offers some fine features at a very affordable price. Being brass chromed, it is highly resistant to saltwater corrosion and is very light in weight for this type of seat. A freshwater rinse every once in awhile will keep this reel seat looking new for years.

It is often said that the hoods are stamped too low for the larger spinning reels, but I have found nearly all reels will fit. The hoods can be raised slightly on these seats simply by taking a larger size screwdriver and carefully prying the hood upwards. It does work, but be very careful! You only have to raise the



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hood slightly for the extra room needed to fit the reel, so be gentle. If this problem does confront you, you must pick its big brother the #5160 or the super deluxe Varmac LWIX.

The Guides: The Varmac SGB series are a great choice for a small boat rod. It's unlikely that you will be gentle with the rod due to constant loading and unloading in the boat. The rod receives further abuse when smacked hard against the boat's seat and gunnel.

The SGB guide is an ultra-strong, wire framed, stainless steel guide that can take considerable punishment. The guide is center-braced for extra strength. Industrial strength chrome plating makes for a very smooth casting surface. Speaking of smooth, Varmac welds or solders all joints of their guides for lasting strength, then uses a unique tumble polishing process to make the welded joints free of line-fraying rough spots. An aluminum oxide tip is preferred for wearability.

If you prefer oxide or ceramic guides the Varmac AGB of Fuji NHG are good choices. The Fuji SCG are a fine set of inexpensive ceramic guides.

The Grips: Veltex grips are inexpensive and very light in weight. Their main feature is their extreme firmness, making them a very sensitive grip material. If you like to sand trim rings or shape grips this is the material to be used because it is very easy to work with.

If you have a small boat which requires you sit down while fishing, an eight inch butt grip will be a big help. There's just enough there to balance the rod and its shorter length keeps the butt end of the rod from getting in the way. A four or five inch foregrip is plenty big enough for a small rod. Celtex or PVC would be fine second choices.

I do not recommend the use of cork grips. They are light, comfortable and offer fine gripping features, however, the cork material can break and wear away with rough use.

Any butt cap will do, but the crutch style rubber caps provide for a broad base making the placement of the rod against your body more comfortable.

Tips: Cutting four inches off of the tip of the 842F gives the blank a true four ounce tip making it an ideal fluke trolling and diamond jigging rod. The tip is still light enough, however, to fish bucktails and plugs of all sizes and gives plenty of sensitivity.

For lighter weight action (8-12 lb. test), leave the tip as is for 8 and 10 lb., or cut off two inches from top for 12 lb. test. Whatever you choose, keep in mind that my original four ounce tip design will handle more situations in rivers, bays and ocean.

Reels such as the Penn #712, Shakespeare Alpha 040, 050, Daiwa Regal 1300 and Ryobi SX3 all match up with this with line weight averaging 12-15 lb. test. These reels are budget priced, but do not lack in performance

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ON RATING A FISHERMAN

by Matt Ahern

Maybe it's time to evaluate your criteria for handing out that coveted "A" rating.

How do you rate a brother fisherman? This is the way I began an article similar to this several years ago. I must have struck a nerve, for the positive response was quite surprising. "Right on, Matt!" "My sentiments exactly!" "I didn't know anyone felt as I did on the subject." And on and on.

Just what was it I wrote in all innocence that caused such reader response? Well, let's see; let's rehash the subject bit by bit. Let's bring forth the gist of what was written. Let's add comment wherever appropriate to that which the passage of time may or may not now require. Perhaps we won't need to at all; but let's see. I began the article in this manner:

How do you rate a brother fisherman? Do you excuse a proficient angler's skill by saying such fellows have an inborn fishing sense and it's impossible to beat them? Do you believe a fisherman is better off if he approaches the sport with a hell-for-leather attitude, or should he approach it as a babe-in-the-woods—in all innocence, let's say. Or do you believe a lackadaisical, don't-give-a-damn outlook more productive? Or don't you care one way or the other? As you can see, we could go on and on and still we'd get nowhere.

But these were several of the interesting questions several fishing buddies bandied about my kitchen table one evening last month. Actually we had met to discuss the possibilities of a late season cod trip, and after that was settled, old Eddie Cleary brought up that first question and from then on the ball rolled merrily on its way. Questions and answers, queries and replies flew thick and fast, and at one point began to get out of hand. My wife settled that in her usual capable way. She stepped in and threatened to throw us all out into the cold.

"You're acting like a bunch of kids," she said. What's the sense in arguing? If one fisherman's better than another, does it matter how he got there? Did you ever stop to think that maybe there's more to fishing than just catching fish? Anyway," she concluded, "I don't know why you fellows are knocking yourselves out this way. You're certainly easy enough to beat."

Old Eddie took a sip of coffee and glanced my way. "Hee, hee. Your wife means you, Matt."

The discussion broke up shortly after that, but I knew we had settled nothing. Such arguments seldom do. And maybe, as my wife said, there is more to fishing than just catching fish.

Keeping flounder this size won't do much for your rating in the eyes of the author.

Take one cold, gray November morning, for instance, when Nick Hauck and I ran our skiff into Island Park's Schaeffer's Creek, hoping to do a repeat job on a few more of the big flounder we had caught the day before. As the skiff rounded the last bend just before our hotspot, we came across a young fellow fishing from an anchored rowboat about 50 feet south of where we intended to fish.

Nick knows the creek through years of experience and when he mentioned the young guy wouldn't have much luck where he was fishing, I took him at his word.

"Maybe you ought to put him wise," I suggested. "Tell him to follow us if he wants."

As we came closer, Nick called over the information, but the guy wasn't anxious to move. "Thanks, fellers," he called back. "But I'll stick it out awhile longer. Already got two in the last ten minutes."

So we continued on and anchored in our previous day's spot, baited with sliced fresh skimmer and commenced to fish. We picked away at the fish for the next hour and each of us had several hefty flounder and had returned a score or more throwbacks.

Nick reached across the seat for a fresh piece of bait. "I don't believe what I'm seeing," he said, more to himself than to me.

"What...that you're catching your usual three to my one?"

"That guy over there. The one we spoke to before. I watched him catch three good flounder and he let every one go. I swear the last one must have weighed two pounds."

I kept my eyes peeled and sure enough, I saw him land a nice fish, carefully unhook it, and drop it back overboard.

"How about that," I said.

"Yeah, how about that?" Nick replied. "Forget it. Fish. The weather's gonna turn sour."

I guess we put in about two more hours and just before a few snowflakes sifted down, the fishing came to a grinding halt. It was time to quit. But I still wondered about that young fellow. I ran the skiff close by and called across the water. "I know it's none of my business, but we noticed you put your fish back. Any special reason?"

"Sure," he replied (a little sheepishly, I thought), "I seldom keep my fish. I just come out here for the fun of it."

I guess it is true: there are fishermen and there are fishermen. Now, without knowing the particular reason why, can we say fellows such as that young guy are not good fishermen should we notice they rarely bring fish home? On the contrary; in my book such fellows rate an A.

This is not to say that we who bring our fish home are not worthy of an A, too. It just means that, truly, it is not all of fishing to catch fish.

And how about those fellows who go out of their way to help the less knowledgeable? Do you not think they also deserve an A for effort? If the truth were known, there isn't one of us who can deny he hasn't been helped at one time or another by these fellows. They are the backbone of our sport. What would we do without them?

And now, what about those fellows who take it upon themselves to make good sportsmen of those kids who so desperately want to learn the game, but are told by unthinking fishermen to "get lost?" Certainly those Good Samaritans who step in and take over rate that A too—plus all the help they can get from us.

How about that party boat skipper who keeps his boat out longer than scheduled on those days when fishing is poor? He could just as easily return at his usual time and few disgruntled fishermen would hold it against him. You paid to fish so many hours—and that's what you've done. Tough if the fish decided to go on a hunger strike on the day you selected to knock 'em dead. Of what interest is it to that party boat skipper if you couldn't sleep nights waiting for your planned fishing day to arrive, praying the weather would hold up, that the cranky car would start in the morning, ad infinitum. So you were disappointed; your day a bust—so what? Doesn't that compassionate skipper also rate an A? You bet!

As with the questions that flew around my kitchen that evening last month, I could go on and on, but you know what I'm trying to say. We desperately need those A-rated fishermen.

But what about those fishermen we don't need? The guys who are marked "zilch" in our book?

We have one thing to be thankful for, though: they aren't as numerous as those other fellows. But they are about on the land and I'm sure you must have had at least a nodding acquaintance with them at one time or another.

For instance, the guys who insist upon keeping small fish. Sure, they give reasons for this. Some will tell you they use these immature fish for soup-making; some will tell you the fish were hooked so deeply, they would have died anyway. Ad nauseum.

Sure, I believe a certain percentage of these fellows make fish soup, and certainly their small fish are hooked deeply at times. But couldn't those soup-makers use larger fish? And what about those small, deeply-hooked fish? This happens occasionally to all of us—but why don't these particular fellows give those small fish a fighting chance by returning them? Perhaps their layman's diagnosis is incorrect; perhaps some of these fish will survive. Fish are tough creatures in their own element. Nature takes care one way or another. But when these fishermen toss those small badly hooked fish in the bucket, they have no chance at all. Even if one in ten survives, is that not better for all concerned?

And what about those "fishermen" who keep short fluke and stripers? I happened upon two fellows one day last summer as they were busily filleting a five-gallon pail of short fluke. Their excuse? It had cost them twenty bucks for the day, and, by God, they were going home with fish! But why, I asked, were they filleting such small fish? Certainly, it seemed hardly worthwhile. Well...just let some conservation officer come along and prove how big those fish were when they got through with them. I had news for them, and it wasn't good.

Well, such fellows may be classified as fishermen as defined by Webster, but—are they sportsmen? Look it up when you have a free minute and see for yourself.

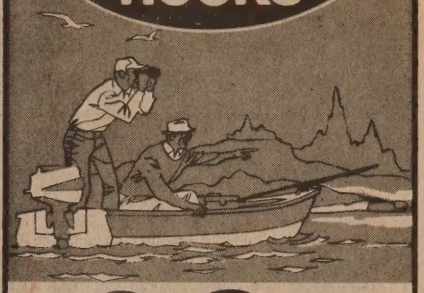
I think the most flagrant insult to my senses occurred the spring day I watched another "fisherman" feeding live small flounder to his huge Great Dane dog. The dog was eating them like peanuts. At least as unsportsmanlike as some of those other fellows' excuses are, they at least have some semblance of sanity, even if one must do a bit of soul-searching to find it. But to feed baby flounder to a pet, regardless of how greatly loved, cannot in all conscience be condoned no matter how one looks at it.

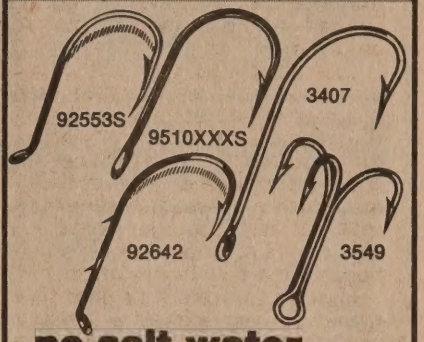
What can we do about such situations? Well, we can't all be policemen, and we can't always engage in a verbal or physical brawl no matter how much we'd like to. Truthfully, I don't know a satisfactory answer. Perhaps we should all be thankful the good guys outnumber the bad guys, hoping at the same time that the foolish fisherman will eventually see the light.

Truly, as my wife said that evening, there is more to fishing than just catching fish.

I guess that's how you rate a fisherman.

MUSTAD SALT WATER HOOKS





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MORICHES BAY:

Flatfisherman's Paradise

by Gerard Pontrelli

Bearing in mind that somebody has to say it, I believe I'll begin this writing with YA-HOO! It's flounder time! And in my opinion, there is no better place on the Island to stock the freezer with flatties than Moriches Bay. This shallow bay is an approximately 12-mile-long body of water centrally located between Shinnecock Bay in the East and Great South Bay on the West. Over the years Moriches Bay has justifiably earned the monicker "Flat Fisherman's Paradise." While it's often possible to catch flounder here all season long, it's the spring run which expectant anglers look forward to most.

Tackle requirements in the Bay can be kept simple and light due to the shallow depths and relatively light currents you'll be fishing. A light action spinning rod in the six foot range and matching reel spooled with 8-10 pound test is adequate for most situations as is any light action conventional outfit.

Where terminal gear is concerned, I don't think I'd be steering you wrong if I suggested you use Chestertown hooks to fish flounder. These hooks are made in sizes two through ten, although the numbers six, eight and ten will be all you need concern yourself with. My personal favorite is the size eight, but the choice is up to you. Many anglers favor the smaller size ten.

As for rigging up, I find it best to go back to old Canarsie. Tandem tie two hooks, and place them an inch or two above the sinker (no higher) by means of a dropper loop. Don't use any hardware whatsoever. Keep it simple and above all, avoid using those gaudy spreaders! To tandem tie, just fold the snell of one hook at its middle, then pass this fold through the knotted eye-loop of the other (second) hook. Next, pull the second hook up tight and secure with a common overhand knot to keep your hooks from sliding together. To make the dropper loop, just tie a double overhand knot in the main line forming a loop. It must also be said that your hooks should be fished directly on bottom. You'll find flounder at their food supply and that supply resides in the soft mud that you should be fishing over to begin with.

Since Moriches Bay averages six to eight feet in depth, and the fish you're fishing for average a pound, there'll be no need to use a cannonball as a sinker. Bring a handful of one and two ounce sinkers and you can fish all day. You'll be dealing with little current inside the bay and since most of the fishing stations prohibit their skiffs from going out to the inlet, you shouldn't encounter much in the way of strong currents.

As for what makes the best bait for flounder, it's sad to say the fish hold all the cards. We as fishermen, can only anticipate what they "might" want to eat. Therefore, it pays to bring along a variety of baits and give the fish their choice. I would say most, if not all flounder fishermen, use all or any combination of the three standard baits: worms (blood or sand), clam and mussel.

When baiting up use pieces big enough to be worthy of the name bait and avoid too meager an offering. When baiting with worm, always cover the hook completely and still have enough left over for a quarter inch to trail off the hook and flutter in the current. You can expose the hook point, just a little, as this seems to set the bait on the hook better.

With clam, first layer some stringy

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stuff on the hook and again, leave a little to flutter in the current. Then on the hook point impale a piece of the clam's soft belly and you've got yourself a fine flounder bait.

When baiting up with mussels it's everybody for themselves! I have no easy solutions to keeping them on the hook.

Now, before we discuss how to stir up the bottom, here are three reasons why it works: 1) Vibration: like most fish, flounder have lateral lines and can sense vibrations in the water. They will investigate these vibrations because they equate them with food. 2) Sight: when flounder are feeding they'll lie on the bottom resting on their fins, revolving their eyes around searching for food. You had better believe those fish are aware and looking, they didn't get bug-eyed for no reason. 3) Food: stirring the bottom dislodges food found in the mud, such as worms, clam spat, mussels, small crustaceans, etc., which the flounder will seek out and take for an easy meal.

Stirring the bottom is as simple as dragging the anchor with the help of your motor. Or you can use any kind of weight that can be tied with a nylon (don't use rope or twine, they'll rot) cord and dragged along the bottom. A plumber's helper is favored by many for this job. Make sure the handle length is adequate for the depths you'll be fishing. However you do it, make sure to get large swirls of mud out into the current. Let the fish know that you have arrived.

Chumming with mussels and kernel corn also works to attract fish. Two years ago, in X-number of trips out to Moriches, I had the pleasure of cleaning slightly over 200 flounder. The majority of which were full of the corn we were chummng with. I'm a believer. All you have to do to chum with corn is throw a couple of handfuls up-current of the anchored skiff every now and then. Make sure the corn sinks near or directly under the boat. Practice with a few kernels and adjust accordingly. Mussels can also be thrown up-current of the anchored skiff, though mussels should be crushed first. Since Moriches Bay is so shallow, this form of mussel and corn chumming is usually adequate. Rice, cat food and egg shells can also be tossed up-current of the skiff. Probably anything in sharp contrast to the bottom will attract the flounder, although not necessarily hold the fish as corn and mussels do.

If you don't fancy these methods of chumming you'll have to use a chum pot. Lightly crack a bunch of mussels in the chum pot; then race against time to get the pot covered and over the side, before all the mussel juice leaks out on the deck of the boat. To remedy this, Doxsee makes an eight ounce bottle of clam juice with a screw-on cap. Purchase a bottle, unscrew the cap and put a couple of small holes in it, so the clam juice only seeps out. Then, put the cap back on and turn the bottle upside down in the bunch of lightly cracked mussels in the chum pot. Lower the pot to the bottom, and you'll have eight ounces of clam juice working where it'll do the most good. Occasionally bounce the chum pot up and down to stir bottom and get the chum into the current. Don't worry about it not being mussel juice, the clam juice works just as well.

Now that you've stirred the bottom and chummed with mussels, corn and clam juice, let's catch a few fish. Probably nothing brings the cry of "fish on" to anglers' lips faster than the slow lift method of flounder fishing. This method is self-described: it being nothing more than taking the slack out of your line and slowly raising the rod tip a foot or two every few seconds. The "secret" is to be conscious of sinker weight at all times! Any reasonable amount of extra weight should be considered a fish. When weight is felt, just keep slow-lifting until you can feel the fish's weight on the end of your line. The fish is not hooked yet, though this is when it probably feels the hook and often enough will try to zip away, helping to hook itself. A flick of your wrist with conventional, or a further slow-lift of your arm with spinning gear, will send the hook home. I could list two or three additional fish catching techniques. However, upon analysis, I find they are comprised of, or boil down to, the slow lift method. So as not to become redundant, let's move on to the where and when of this article.

The following observations are a result of careful record keeping while fishing Moriches Bay over the course of a number of years. Now I can't mark an "X" on the water and say this is where you'll find them. I will put you in the ballpark, however, although you'll have to find the bases yourself so to speak. These areas are where I've found the best fishing in recent years, others might disagree. So with this in mind, we'll take the season month by month.

March: If you plan on fishing this month plan on fishing the Quogue Canal. The buoy 52 area is good, as well as the area around buoy 54. Further east, buoy 7A might be worth a look-see, especially if you want tommycod. The key to catching, however, is deep water.

April: The first three weeks in April should still be devoted to deep-water fishing. The area northeast of buoy 42 has been a hotspot. Anchor up northeast of the buoy, between the buoy and the shore. There's a good mud bottom in this area. (I believe this to be a spawning area). The deep water immediately east of buoy 44 is also a likely producer. Around the third or fourth week of this month, try the down-tide side of the sand bar that's located at buoy 39. An incoming tide is ideal there.

May: What goes on this month shouldn't be called fishing. Better to consider it slaughter. It's time to fish

(Continued on page 42.)

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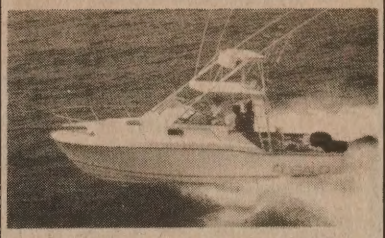
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CONCRETE VISTA: THE TWIN TOWERS

by Ed Haring

While the atmosphere may not be romantic, New York's five boroughs do offer the probing angler numerous opportunities.

In order to enjoy fishing one does not necessarily have to have a lighthouse, scalloped dunes or high sandy bluffs in the background. Indeed, it is rare for many anglers to ever see such romantic vistas. All one has to do is travel along the waterfront of the Metropolitan Area to see numerous fishermen enjoying their favorite sport in full view of Manhattan's skyline. Some are loners, others choose to fish in groups and still others make it a family affair. You will hear radios blaring, laughter, singing and shouts of glee when a fish is removed from the briny.

Tackle ranges from the ridiculous to the sublime. You're bound to see anything from an expensive custom made rod, to a relic that was in the family for generations. Finely crafted spinning and bait casting reels will be utilized next to ancient hand-me-downs and even tin cans wound carefully with lengths of discarded birds-nests of varying strengths. What is the difference? A fish has never been known to come up and inspect an angler's tackle and the person holding it. They are very democratic that way. Give them a tempting bit of the bait du jour on a well honed hook and your chances are as good as anyone else's.

What are some of the possibilities in this area? Many species may be found in these waters and there is a lot of water surrounding the five boroughs. Take the Hudson, for example. Stripers have been taken mainly in upper Manhattan and the Bronx and there are sharpies who have been known to do fairly well along the docks for its entire length. I would not look for fluke, but blacks and tommycod can fall victim to your presentations. Don't look for too much action along the eastern side of Manhattan, but the waters around the Bronx are notorious for yielding good catches of stripers, monster blues and flounder, plus less exotic species. You've read of Eastchester Bay, Turtle Cove, Orchard Beach and City Island. This is the area where the Sound and East River merge and the currents and eddies can make for some very productive days. Do not overlook the possibility of some fine blackfishing in the rocky areas.

Crossing over the northwestern part of Queens the prospects of the same kind of fishing may be found. Again to refresh your memory a bit: doesn't Little Neck Bay and the Fort Totten shore bring memories of the tales of early stripers? Blues have been known to blitz here as well as under the Throggs Neck Bridge and the Whitestone. Look for blacks and flounder, too. Further down and along the docks in Brooklyn you will find tommycod and plenty of "short bass" with a few keepers. Be a sport though, and not a law breaker. Return anything below 16 inches with an extra measure of TLC.

The shores of Brooklyn and Staten Island along the Narrows offers a good mix. Weakfish and fluke can also be added to the list. Here we can

If you prefer the feel of sand beneath your feet, the beaches of Staten Island and Gateway National Park are within easy reach of Metropolitan anglers.

also find easy access to the water. The first of a number of fishing piers is at the foot of 69th Street on the Brooklyn side and there are a fair amount of old and unused piers on the opposite shore. You will find clusters of fishermen strung along the promenade all the way from 69th Street to the flea market that formerly housed Korvettes. This runs next to the Belt Parkway. Under the Verrazano Bridge is a favorite as well as the rocky breakwater to the south of it. At times, the latter area can be a shoulder to shoulder affair.

Beyond this point the choices and facilities vary widely. You have your chance to fish the open surf along Staten Island's beaches, and from Coney Island on through the Rockaways. If jetties and rocky groins are your cup of tea, you will find them. For the pier fisherman, there is Coney Island and Canarsie. There are bridges along the Belt Parkway at Gerritsen Creek, Mill Basin, Spring Creek and a few smaller waterways. These are used mainly by bikers since there is very little in the way of parking. They all get a moderate amount of attention, along with the shores at their bases. The real crowd getters are the North and South Channel Bridges. You will almost always find someone there, day or night. While fishing is not permitted on the Marine Parkway Bridge it gets a very big play and although it has been there since the early 1930s, I have yet to see the ban enforced. As long as fishermen do not interfere with the flow of traffic or hit cars with backcasts, it will remain status quo. The seawall east of the bridge gets a good play, too. Just about all of our local species pass through these waters and there are times when the action can get hectic.

Anglers can be found along the shore all the way from Sheepshead Bay, east to the N.Y. City line. Some wade considerable distances over the flats or hop sand bars in the waters of Jamaica Bay and many nice fluke have fallen victim to these hardy souls.

Some may choose to enjoy the facilities at Gateway National Recreation area. If you do, first apply for a pass at Park Headquarters and ask which parking areas are available. The rules have been amended in some cases so it would be advisable to inquire at the office before driving off to your favorite fishing area.

There are some fine angling possibilities without a lot of travel and expense for the Metropolitan based angler and just as anywhere else, there will be good and bad days. But unless you are a committed "meat fisherman," there is always the fun, fresh air and relaxation that makes the game universally popular. The chances of breaking any IGFA records are pretty remote, but if it's fun and relaxation you're after, then take the time to look into some of the opportunities available within view of the "Twin Towers."

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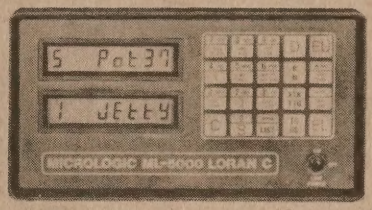

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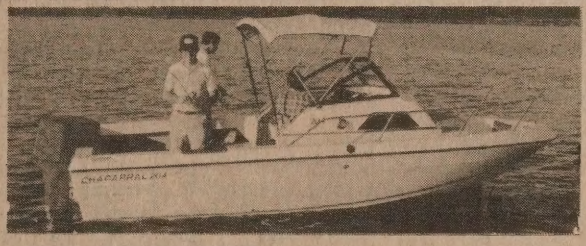

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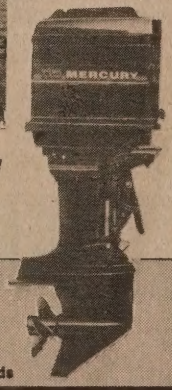

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SHORT HAUL FLOUNDER

by Lou Mauriello

Long Island's western bays provide some mighty fine flounder fishing under relatively sheltered conditions.

From time to time, we may see printed in various fishing magazines, this one included, the importance of getting to know your local area intimately before moving on to those so-called greener pastures elsewhere. This fact has been driven home to me more than ever since moving out to Long Island. Up until a little over 6 years ago, I was a city dweller just like millions of people out there, and as such, I could be found roaming all over Long Island in search of good flounder action. Since moving out here though, I have become a bit more lethargic and I don't run around as much as I used to. As a result, I have discovered that local fishing can be quite good; once I took to learning about the creeks and channels that are within but a stone's throw of our front doorsteps. For those of you who live in the city, maybe you will see that you need not travel as far as you thought to fill that pail with flatties.

Depending on the severity of the winter, we will see the spring run of flounder developing at slightly different times each year. On the average though, in this area, the fish tend to start biting in earnest right around the traditional start of the season. I am referring to St. Patrick's day or March 17th. In the area around my home in Seaford, we are fortunate enough to have a multitude of creeks and channels that are quite productive during the spring and fall. If the winter is mild, as the one which we just experienced, we can expect to find flounder coming out of their winter hibernation up to several weeks earlier than normal. However, during severe winters, when the bay freezes solid, the spring fishing may be delayed by several weeks. If you have any doubt about the part water temperature plays in this fishing, look at the Spring of '82 and what happened after we had that freak snowstorm in April. Prior to that storm, flounder were biting their foolish little heads off. Right after we got that snowfall, the fishing took a dramatic downturn.

Locally, I find that the first place that seems to come to life in the spring is a deep hole off Ft. Neck Point. This area is about 22 feet deep and lies just to the north and east of the "grass catcher," which is clearly visible at this location. This spot is an early season favorite of mine and has produced **more** than one exceptional catch for me. It is a bit exposed to the Westerlies that seem to blow at this time of year but you will never experience **more** than a slight chop as you are fishing not more than 150 yards from shore. This area holds fish throughout most of the spring, but I find that as the season progresses,

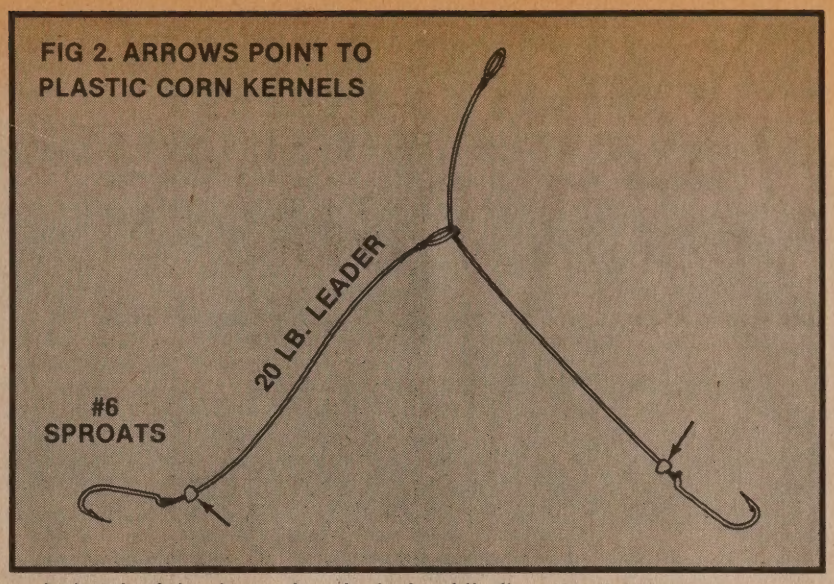
the fish move in a westerly direction toward Jones Inlet. Also, and this holds true throughout the area in the early spring, the ebb or outgoing tide seems to produce the best scores.

Once into April, I start to look in other areas for my fish. One favorite spot is the area by Squaw Island and West Island. These areas are marked on local charts, but can be quite tricky to get to. On more than one occasion, I have had the bottom of my boat get a free scraping on the way to Squaw Island. If you are approaching this area from the west, you will be travelling along the Amity Channel which twists and turns like a snake and if you happen to be making this run in the early morning hours, you will have the added problem of having the sun in your eyes which can make spotting the day markers a bit harder than usual. I suggest a good pair of sunglasses to cut down the glare, especially in this area. Once you get to the "Squaw," as we call her, you will find the channel turns to the south and then back to the northeast before turning east toward West Island. I like to fish the north side of this channel for as the tide ebbs in this area, it will wash over the slope and put the fish into a more active state (due to the shallower water having been warmed by the sun.) I also like to believe that this ebbing tide washes bits of marine life from the flats across the slope of the channel, thereby creating a natural chum slick which attracts flounder. In any case, my best fishing in this area is done on the ebb tide and on that north side of the channel.

The importance of fishing the outgoing tide cannot be over-emphasized at this time of year and it matters not the time of day. I recall a day about five years ago when I went out with two friends from work. We had worked a midnight shift, but didn't want to waste a beautiful day, so went down to a local boat livery and rented one of their skiffs. By the time we got all our things together, it was about 10AM and we didn't get the anchor in until about 11AM. I figured we would just be wasting our time, but that day taught me a valuable lesson. It seems that as we arrived by Squaw Island, the tide had just begun to ebb and to make a long story short, we slayed 'em. Also, that day produced the largest flounder I had ever seen in the local bays as we had several fish of over two pounds and almost all of them over one pound.

The waters surrounding Squaw and West Island seem to hold flounder from mid-April to mid-May and I often find the best fishing in about 10 to 12 feet of water.

When the fish peter out at the aforementioned locations, they tend to move into two areas which are so close to the Wantagh Parkway that you can almost read the license plates on the passing cars. One of these areas is just south of the entrance to Seaford Creek at the entrance to what is called "The Drain." Here you should work **the** hole just outside of the red buoy that marks the entrance to the flats. This hole is about 15 to 20 feet deep and has yielded some very nice sized flounder to me. The other place is just east of the third Wantagh bridge. I have seen some outstanding catches made here also as the fish tend to gang up before passing into Sloop Channel. By the time flounder have reached this area, I have usually started running east for weakfish, so I'll leave the areas west of the Wantagh Parkway for someone more familiar with this locale.



A sketch of the rig used exclusively while flounder fishing. It consists of #6 Sproat hooks on 20 lb. test leader. Note the plastic corn kernel. Believe it or not, it helps.

In choosing tackle for fishing these backyard areas, you need not drive yourself crazy. I personally use a seven foot, one-piece, light action spin rod which has an old Zebco Cardinal 4 mounted on it. I spool it with eight pound test monofilament and with this outfit, I have whipped the biggest flounder I have run across not only in this area, but even those big fish of Gardiner's Bay. You can use any light rod, spinning or conventional, with a matching reel that is capable of handling monofilament which I would recommend not exceed 15 or 20 pound test. The water in this area is usually not deeper than 10 or 12 feet and there is no need for heavy sinkers. This is a definite plus since you can use the lighter tackle and not only feel the delicate hit of the flounder but you can enjoy maximum sport once you have him hooked.

Speaking of hooks, most people involved in flounder fishing use the old standby Chestertown in size 8 or 9 and I will admit it is a good choice. The one thing I don't agree with is the logic that it is the best choice for flounder because it is easy to get out of a flounder if the fish takes the hook deeply. I use the #6 Sproat hook which I tie on a piece of 20 pound test leader material and I don't have any problem unhooking fish, even if the hook is deeply swallowed. I simply use a little trick that I learned quite a few years ago and that I will pass on to you. You simply grasp the fish in your weak hand and with your strong hand, you yank sharply on the leader thereby freeing the hook from the fish. These Sproat hooks are superior, in my estimation, to any other hook I have ever used for flounder. Even though they are not offset like the Chestertown, I have no problems hooking fish with them and because of their light weight, I seem to get more hits and thereby catch more fish with them. These hooks are perfect to use with my favorite spring flounder bait, that being the bank mussel.

When using mussels as bait, I never steam them or salt them. Oh, I know you have read umpteen thousand times that you will find it easier to keep them on the hook after they're steamed, but did you ever stop to think that because they are steamed, they will act unnatural in the tide. Let's try to remember that these fish can be quite finicky feeders and that every little trick we can use is to our advantage. If you take the time and trouble to open these mussels fresh, you can't go wrong and will definitely see your scores improve.

To reach the areas listed in this article you have several options. The first way is to check the listings in the pages of this magazine for the party boats which sail out of local ports. I can think of one that sails out of Seaford (Chinco III) and have seen several of the Freeport boats that travel to these locations for their fishing. Any of these boats offer the opportunity to fish in prime areas in relative comfort with everything being done for you but the actual catching.

Your second option is using your own boat to find these fish. You need not have a large sportfisherman for these waters as you will be fishing

(Continued on next page.)

MONTAUK.

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narrow channels of not more than several hundred yards in width and even in the most severe weather, not only will there not be any heavy chop to contend with, but you can always duck into the lee of an available island to be a bit more comfortable. If you trailer your boat, as I do, you will find that the launching ramps in the Seaford, Massapequa area are quite nicely kept and will leave you only a short run to the fishing grounds. Two of the most popular ramps in the area include the one located in Wantagh Park, located in the town of Wantagh just west of the Wantagh Parkway on Merrick Road and the ramp at John Burns park, located in the town of Massapequa on Merrick Road. Unfortunately, these ramps are restricted to residents of the Town of Hempstead and the Town of Oyster Bay, but for those of you who live in these towns, you will be hard pressed to find better ramps anywhere.

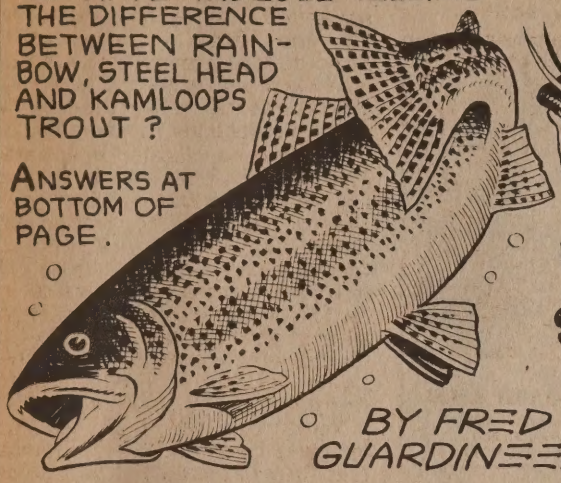
Your third option, if you don't care for party boats and aren't fortunate (did I say fortunate?) enough to own your own boat, is to rent a skiff from one of the fishing stations that dot the shore in this area. Two of the liveries that come to mind are located in Seaford and are a short haul to the locations previously mentioned. The folks who run these stations, Pop's and Captain Eddie's, are very courteous and knowledgeable about the local fishing situation. Aside from a full line of bait and tackle, they can supply you with maps of the area and will be more than glad to pinpoint the current hotspots for you as most of their business is based on repeat customers. At this writing, the price for a skiff and motor runs about $30 to $35 and that includes a tank of gas. I have had occasion to rent one of their garvey style skiffs and found it quite roomy and comfortable with three adults fishing, which I find ideal, as it not only helps defray the cost of the trip but I always manage to talk one of the other fellows into handling the anchor—the one job I hate. I highly suggest you call in advance if you plan on fishing from one of these stations either during peak season or on a weekend as they have a limited number of boats available. You wouldn't want to get down to the dock only to be turned away when you know the fish are jumping into the boats only a short distance away.

To rehash a bit, I would again like to stress the importance of fishing on the ebb tide. Next, remember to fish on the slopes of the channels. As to the matter of bait, mussels cannot be beat, but other baits will produce and don't forget to use chum. I use both chum logs in a pot and cracked mussels dropped over the side of the boat. Tackle should be kept as light as possible and you have your choice of boating options to reach these western bay flatties. I'm sure once you give this area a try, you will agree with me that the grass may be just as green right here in your own backyard.

THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

(1) **WHY** DO SOME FISHERMEN HAVE TROUBLE TELLING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RAINBOW, STEEL HEAD AND KAMLOOPS TROUT ?

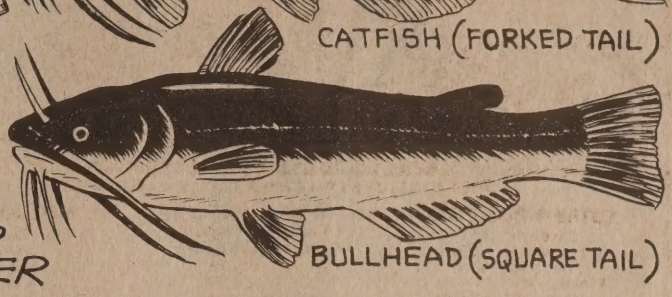
ANSWERS AT BOTTOM OF PAGE.



BY FRED GUARDINEER

(2) **FISH** WITH FORKED TAILS ARE USUALLY THE FASTEST SWIMMERS... TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

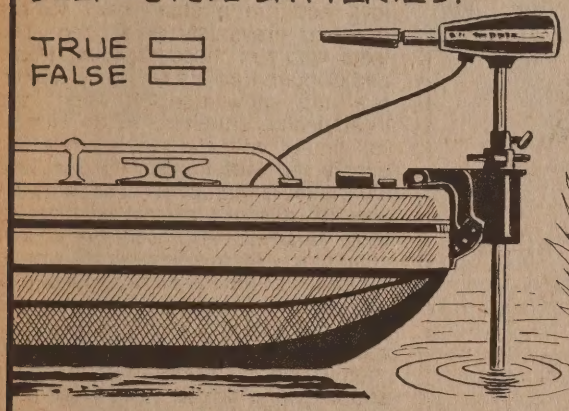
CATFISH (FORKED TAIL)



BULLHEAD (SQUARE TAIL)

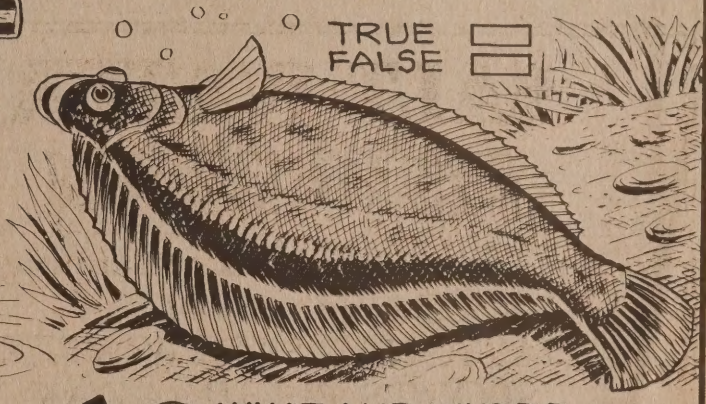
(3) **ELECTRIC OUTBOARDS** SHOULD BE POWERED BY DEEP-CYCLE BATTERIES.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐



(4) **A FLOUNDER** CAN CHANGE COLOR TO MATCH THE EXACT HUE OF THE BOTTOM OVER WHICH IT IS SWIMMING.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐



(5) **THIS SHARK** IS MOST ABUNDANT AND IS THE MOST COMMONLY CAUGHT...

SANDBAR ☐
SANDSHARK ☐
DOGFISH ☐

(6) **WHAT AND WHERE** WAS THE BIGGEST FISHING TOURNAMENT EVER HELD, A READER ASKS US ?

1-THEY ARE ALL THE SAME SPECIES, *SALMO GAIRDNERI*. 2-TRUE. 3-TRUE. THEY ARE DESIGNED TO PERFORM UNDER A STEADY POWER DRAIN. 4-TRUE. 5-SANDBAR. 6-THE EMPIRE STATE LAKE ONTARIO TROUT & SALMON DERBY APR. 22-25, 1982. 10,325 ANGLERS IN 4,500 BOATS TOOK PART WITH AN ECONOMIC IMPACT OF $2.87 MILLION.

WIND & SURF

by John Fritz

The forces of nature play an integral part of the lives of all living things. There are those among us who are affected very little by these forces, spending most of their lives in buildings with air conditioning to lower the temperature if it becomes too hot and central heating systems for when there is a chill in the air. People who spend a considerable amount of time outdoors, whether at work or play, are more attentive to the predictions of imminent changes in the weather. A skier cannot ski without snow or the cold temperatures need to make snow; a duck hunter is wasting his time if there isn't sufficient wind and a golfer would have a difficult time putting in a driving rainstorm. The success of a surfcaster, on the other hand, is influenced by many natural elements: time of day, tides, cloud cover, phase of the moon, surf conditions and not the least of which is the force and direction of the wind.

The effects of a wind on surf fishing is dependent on many conditions. Most important is the area to be fished, but also of importance to the type of fishing is the species sought, time of year, and the stage of the tide. A knowledgeable surfman uses the wind in relation to these other factors and plans his trips accordingly, thereby significantly increasing his chances of success. A complete disregard for the existing winds, its duration, strength or direction can make the most carefully planned fishing trip fruitless.

Most of the city weather stations neglect to present wind conditions and even if they do it, it is usually taken at an inland weather station, in our area Central Park. A local radio station is more attuned to the needs of those living and working by the sea so they are more inclined to give the latest marine forecasts, but even NOAA weather is sometimes out of step with conditions existing at specific locations. A check of the wind and its effect on a large tree in the neighborhood is a help in gauging the direction and force of the wind in your locality. However, remember that unless you are living on the waterfront, an inland wind is less severe than an onshore wind at the beach. Here on Long Island it is even possible to encounter a wind from a different direction on each shore. The successful surfman gathers all the information possible and with his knowledge of the effects of what he has learned on specific locations, chooses the most advantageous beach. Even then he can occasionally get blown out but his percentages are much greater than one who ignores these matters and just goes fishing.

As previously mentioned the most important effect of a strong wind is it's direction in relation to the area to be fished. As a general rule fierce onshore winds will make fishing in the face of such a wind impossible. It would make casting difficult for sure, but even if this can be overcome, enormous seas with its accompanying roiled bottom would make fishing an exercise in futility. Again, there are exceptions. Some shore lines are not seriously affected by strong onshore winds, a sharp grade to the low water mark or a bottom comprised of small amounts of sediment can produce excellent fishing at such times. A prime example is found at some spots on Long Island's North Fork.

As a general rule, winds from a northerly quarter will most affect the north shore of Long Island; the opposite shore being influenced by the southerly winds. The obvious conclusion would be to fish the lee shore, but this is not always necessary or desired. On many occasions it is possible to find locations on the windward shore out of the direct force of the wind where excellent fishing can be found. This is particularly true on the north shore which has a much more irregular coast. Long jutting points of land and wide sweeping bays which alter the true east/west lie of the shore can provide protection from such winds. For instance, West Meadow is free from the force of a northeast blow, as is Horton's Point. On the ocean shore finding a place shielded from southerly winds is more difficult where little topographical deviation is to be found. The insides of the south shore inlets offer the best opportunities to avoid the full force of the wind. Frequently these sheltered waters will produce blitz-type fishing when the outer beaches are too wild for either fish or fishermen.

In the last few paragraphs I may have given the impression that

exceptionally strong winds should be avoided. This is not always the rule, but when the winds are of gale force and of lengthy duration the open sea conditions are impossible to cope with. The initial stages of such a blow can be beneficial, producing dynamite action but only before the water becomes too roiled. Such conditions are desired by knowing surfmen.

Primarily strong winds will often drive bait and game fish closer to the beach and also create enough disturbance to lessen a predator's natural fear of shallow water and of striking a bait that doesn't behave the way it should.

The time of the year is an important factor in determining whether an onshore wind is helpful or harmful to the fishing possibilities. Another general rule is that onshore winds in the early stages of the season are undesirable. Water temperatures at this time of the year are critical and a push of colder water from offshore can put the fish off their feed. Usually at this time small, lighter plugs, such as the Rebel type swimmers are used and wind makes casting and the proper retrieve difficult. During the fall it is another story, for these winds are a boon to anglers picking away at reluctant fish. Such winds again chill the water, only now they stimulate the predator into intensified feeding as the time for migration draws near. An example of this theory can be found at Shagwong where a northerly wind during the early summer weakfish run can ruin the fishing, but the same winds in October or November can produce some of the best fishing of the season.

As a general rule it is best to avoid onshore winds early in the season, but during the fall make every effort to be on the beach with the wind in your face. Remember, though, that with fishing there are always exceptions. A southwest wind is considered beneficial in many areas of the south shore in June and for several seasons a stiff northwest has launched the monster bluefish run of mid-October on the ocean beaches.

Any of the three surf game fish are able to cope with crashing waves and surging cross currents. This ability to inhabit the surf zone is what sets them aside from the other fish in the sea. Even though these species often intermingle and can be caught at the same time, certain sea conditions and techniques are more favorable to a particular species. Striped bass are known for their love of white water conditions, whereas weakfish are more inclined to cruise the shore line when the ocean is in a calmer state. Then there are those times when finicky cow bass or teen blues are attracted only to a baited hook, necessitating the need to fish bottom. Because of the idiosyncrasies of each species at different times of the season, some fishing methods are unsuitable in a heavy surf.

Bottom fishing, for instance, is extremely difficult to undertake with six foot waves crashing on the beach or when an easterly wind sets up a lateral sweep which quickly pushes any terminal rig into the wash. Beaches adjacent to the south shore inlets are often innundated with eel grass torn from the nearby bay bottom and flushed seaward through the inlets, making fishing bottom all but impossible.

The same is true of blustery northeast winds on the western portion of Long Island Sound which washes great quantities of cabbage towards the beach. Plug casters will be less affected by these fouled waters, but if the fish are not hitting lures, any effort will be to no avail.

Some beaches, particularly on the central north shore, can be successfully fished at high water while buffeted by a strong north west wind, but at low water they become too stirred up to produce worthwhile fishing. If the winds persist over the span of several tides, then all effort is fruitless. These Sound waters will settle down at a faster rate, often within a matter of hours once the winds have subsided. The south shore, on the other hand, will often take days before it is fishable.

The effects of the winds on the reach and force of the tides is another matter to be considered when choosing a fishing location. When these forces oppose each other the normal flow of the tide is diminished. A certain rip may fail to form if the tidal flow is reduced or an adverse wind may flood the beaches to the dune line at high water or push the water in the opposite direction reducing the depth of the water to an extreme.

At certain times of the year winds from a specific direction are more prevalent than others. During the summer months the afternoon hours generally produce a southwest wind on the ocean beaches, occasionally at a brisk speed, which in most instances, dies to nothing after sunset. In the autumn, these winds switch direction 90 degrees and become northwest, but these are not as patterned as the summer breezes. These northwest winds feature chilly blasts of Arctic air most frequently after a period of inclement weather.

The effect of wind, probably the most important natural element in surf fishing, on each particular area in relation to the time of year and tides should be studiously noted. Much wasted effort can be avoided when plans for a day's fishing are based on the direction, force and duration of not only the current wind, but also the winds of the past 24 to 36 hours. There is no simple rule for the winds' effects on all areas at all times. It is this inconsistency which makes surf fishing the great sport that it is, for not everyone can just walk down to the beach and start catching fish. To be a consistently successful surfman takes a lot of prior effort. It is when these labors bear fruit that the victory is so sweet.

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East End REPORT
with Bob Lee

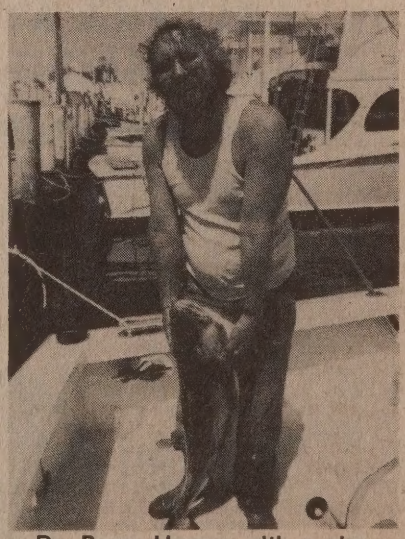
The flounder fishing on the east end got off to a shaky start this week due to the weather. Those fishermen who did manage to get out had excellent results. Codfishing continues to be very good at the Cartwright grounds. Fish in the 30 pound range have been taken, but the average is 7 to 10 lbs. Weather permitting the flounder action should pick up this week. The cod are here, but we need some decent weather to bring the fishermen out.

MONTAUK

Captain Paul Forsberg of the Montauk based **Viking Fleet** reports plenty of cod are being taken at the Cartwright Grounds. Captain Forsberg said a large body of 6 to 12 lb. cod have moved into the Cartwright area recently. Toni Sepd of Lindehurst was high hook in Friday with 26 cod to 31 lbs. Mr. Sepd also is the leader in the codfish derby with the 31 pounder.

Captain Richie Rade of the Montauk based **Marlin Fleet** reports excellent codfishing at the Cartwright grounds. On Sunday everyone on board had 7 to 8 cod apiece. Thursday's trip was better with 20 cod a man.

Captain John DeMaio, skipper of the charter boat **Vivienne** reports good codfishing all week. Captain DeMaio said his fares averaged 65 cod to the trip, with most of the fish in the 7 to 9 lb. range. Sunday saw 70 cod hauled over the rails with a 25 pounder being the largest.



Dr. Bruce Hopper with a nice cod taken last April south of Block Island on the "Adios."

Mike McGee and friends put away a load of cod up to 48 lbs. at Montauk last spring aboard Capt. Bruce Kieffer's "Ebb Tide."

SOUTH FORK

Chris Salb of **Bayview Marine Fishing Station** in **Sag Harbor** spoke of a good looking start to the flounder season in this area. He has already seen some fish over 2 pounds taken from the cove and knew that other boatmen did ok outside off of Kelly's Point. Incoming tide and mussel bati and chum working best. Chris reminded that he has his rental skiffs in the water and ready to go.

Captain Artie Lach of the Sag Harbor open boat **Wilhelric** reports he made his first run Sunday and the results were impressive. Flounder were found just about everywhere. South Ferry, behind the bay at Jessups, Dering Harbor and the oyster factory were just some of the hotspots. Frank Hoffman of Lindenhurst was the pool winner with a fish just under 2 lbs. Capt. Lach said his fares averaged 8 to 10 fish a man. Starting Friday, the Wilhelric will sail every day.

Thom Speck of **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in **Southampton** reports that Heddy Creek and the west side of Three Mile Harbor are the hotspots this week. Carl McRitton and Tony Schettino of East Hampton did a number on these flatties at the Three Mile Harbor area. Thom said they had 50 fish in the 3/4 to 1½ lb. range using blood wroms. Heddy Creek continues to be productive also. The same fellows from the Bronx returned Sunday and did a number on these fish using bloodworms.

In **Hampton Bays, Corr's Mariner's Cove** reports that three boats sailed on Sunday and they had 35 to 40 flounder fishing the Basket area. Some yellowtail flounder up to 2 lbs. were caught in this area also. Mussel chum and blood or sand worms did

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . –0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	3:35	4:20	4:25	5:00	4:10	4:55	5:10	5:50	7:00	8:10	7:00	7:40	3:40	4:10	3/24
FRI.	4:45	5:20	5:30	6:00	5:20	5:55	6:10	6:45	8:30	9:10	8:05	8:40	4:35	5:05	3/25
SAT.	5:45	6:15	6:30	6:55	6:20	6:50	7:10	7:40	9:35	10:05	9:05	9:30	5:35	5:55	3/26
SUN.	6:35	7:00	7:20	7:45	7:10	7:40	8:05	8:25	10:30	10:55	9:55	10:20	6:25	6:45	3/27
MON.	7:20	7:45	8:10	8:30	8:00	8:25	8:55	9:15	11:20	11:40	10:45	11:10	7:10	7:30	3/28
TUES.	8:05	8:30	8:55	9:15	8:45	9:05	9:40	10:00	—	12:05	11:35	11:55	8:00	8:20	3/29
WED.	8:50	9:15	9:40	10:00	9:30	9:55	10:25	10:45	12:20	12:50	—	12:20	8:45	9:05	3/30
THURS.	9:35	9:55	10:25	10:45	10:20	10:40	11:15	11:30	1:05	1:30	12:40	1:05	9:25	9:50	3/31

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehobeth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	–0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point, north side	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	–0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rochelle	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	–1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 3/24	5:58	6:15
FRI. 3/25	5:56	6:16
SAT. 3/26	5:55	6:18
SUN. 3/27	5:53	6:19
MON. 3/28	5:51	6:20
TUE. 3/29	5:49	6:21
WED. 3/30	5:47	6:23

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 3/24	1:21PM	3:35AM
FRI. 3/25	2:35PM	4:21AM
SAT. 3/26	3:49PM	4:59AM
SUN. 3/27	5:03PM	5:33AM
MON. 3/28	6:15PM	6:03AM
TUE. 3/29	7:25PM	6:32AM
WED. 3/30	8:33PM	7:00AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
3/14	3/22	3/28	3/6

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The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	12:55	7:05	1:15	7:35
Fri.	1:50	8:00	2:10	8:30
Sat.	2:45	8:55	3:05	9:20
Sun.	3:35	9:40	3:50	10:05
Mon.	4:20	10:30	4:40	10:50
Tues.	5:05	11:20	5:30	11:45
Wed.	6:00	—	6:30	12:15
Thurs.	6:50	12:40	7:20	1:05

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South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

South Shore flounder fans were again frustrated by "Mother Nature" this past weekend though some did surprisingly well on Sunday in spite of all the wind.

And for those who sought out their flatties from the Captree Overlook Pier, lively action was reported on Sunday and also during Saturday's wind and rain. The Oak Beach shoreline (inlet side) is also worth a look for beach bound anglers.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

A couple of Moriches Bay fishing stations managed to salvage Sunday out of the weekend but 25-30 mph winds made for far from ideal fishing conditions. There was substantial evidence that the flatties are now settled into the Bay with buoys 41 and 42 producing the best results at this point. Primarily small fish remain in the Quogue Canal.

Gary Grunseich of **Silly Lilly Fishing Station** in **East Moriches** reported that a few boats managed good catches on Sunday despite the wind. Tom Smith and his son Tom, Jr., Robert Burke and Frank Deis worked the buoy 42 area for 40 big flatties between 1 and 2 pounds. They chummed with mussels and used both mussels and bloods to take their fish.

Over at **L & M Marine Fishing Station**, Larry Dallaire said that most boats managed 25-35 flatties in the 1-2 pound range at buoys 41 and 42 on Sunday. Among those who braved the wind were L.I.F. Subscribers Pat Capalbo, Bernaldo Ortiz and Leonard Lynch who finished up with 31 big flatties on bloodworms and mussel chum. The trio found their best action during outgoing water.

Bill Dempsey and Mal and Frank Sweeny fished out of **Hi-Way Fishing Station** on Sunday. Bob Mignerey of the station said the three were more than satisfied with their catch of 40 flounder in the 1-2 class made just SW of buoy 42 on bloodworms and mussel chum.

The Forge River area near buoy 27 also produced some fish on blowy Sunday. A couple of boats managed

up to 20 flatties, according to **Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station.**

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

A few flounder were taken from the Blue Point and Patchogue Docks on worms this past week according to Paul Graniello of **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue.** He added though that the fishing is just a pick. The only boatman checking in this week was Timmy Brownie who managed 10 keepers from his "tin boat" near buoy 31 on Thursday. He used sandworms and heavy chum.

From **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale,** Dave Canale said that flounder scores between Heckscher and Bayberry Point remained impressive through most of the week but was slowed by the recent storm. Sunday's best fishing was located on the south side of the bay off of Point 'O Woods. Al Colban weighed in a sea run brown trout of 3.2 pounds taken in the tidal reaches of the Connetquot on Friday.

Irene Cioffi of **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip** knew that boatmen did a very fine job on the flatties between Heckscher and Bayberry Point during the week. On Thursday, Ron Rossi, Mike DePalo and Bob Romney teamed to take 60 fish up to 2¼ pounds. Most of the fish were in the 1-1½ pound range. Both blood and sandworms took the fish.

From **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** in **Bay Shore,** Carl Miller told of 1 local clammer that scored with 80 flatties during mid-week on the Bay Shore flats. Other boats also did a job in this area during the week. The weekend was a loss due to the wind and rain. Carl also knew that some white perch were taken in the Connetquot this past week but not in any great quantities.

Capt. Neil Delanoy of the **Bay Shore** open boat **Casey Lee,** labelled the local flounder action excellent through Thursday. Friday and Saturday were lost to the weather and Sunday's action was off due to the storm's effects, he said. Backing up to Wednesday, Hy Brown put away 38 fish by himself and the skipper figured over 500 flatties came aboard that day. All baits were working and any moving tide produced action.

The **Captree** open boat fleet cashed in on the excellent fishing during the week along the north side of the Bay but boats were left to fend for themselves on windy Sunday following the most recent storm. Those who opted for the south side of the Bay seemed to enjoy the best results judging by reports.

Both the **Capt. Richie** and **Capt. Joseph II** were among those who worked to the south off of Point 'O Woods and Range Channel and found surprisingly good fishing considering the conditions. Capt. Charlie Ken-

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Stan Bigora with part of a recent 30 flounder catch made in Moriches Bay on worms, clams and mussel chum. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

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nedy of the **Joseph** reported a score of 43 fish for Al Menderas and his son Mike while Bob Pace and his fiance, Johanna Ackerman teamed to put away 59. The skipper said that the incoming produced best all week and that both clams and worms were equally effective in the bait department.

According to Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy Fleet**, Sunday was a tough day due to the wind and the storm which preceded it. Nonetheless, the **Speedy VII** managed to pick away all day down off Sayville while the **Speedy VI** found slow fishing off of Bay Shore in the AM but salvaged the day with a good flurry in the afternoon off of Point 'O Woods.

Capt. Carl Passero of the **Jib VI** labelled Sunday as picky but preferred to praise the fine fishing that characterized the week. Twenty one fares on Wednesday bailed over 400 flatties, including a few which topped the 2 pound mark. Bob, Cheryl, Molly and Manny Stern took home 50 fish that day. The skipper expects the fast action to return as soonas things settle back to normal.

A group from Reiner's Furs, which included young Lauren and Eric Reiner, fished aboard the **Captree** charter boat, **Blue Albatross II** on Sunday with satisfactory results. They finished up the day with 83 keepers in the 1-2½ pound range taken off of Point 'O Woods.

The **Babylon** open boat **Luci III** worked between buoy 2 and 4 on Thursday and finished with a decent score according to skipper Jack Stoddard. Ralph Green had 11 flatties to 1½ pounds. Working the same area on Sunday produced poor action in the AM but the day was salvaged by an afternoon flurry at buoy 1, Islip.

Ski Kochanski of **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon** knew that a couple

Ralph and Michael Green with some big Heckscher flounder caught aboard the Babylon based "Luci III."

of private boats did a nine job on the flatties Sunday despite the wind. Bob Schwartz put the crew aboard his Prides Pup into 40 big flatties while Artie Oralndi's Fast Eddie also clicked with a load of nice fish. Ski thought both worked the West Channel area. He noted too that sandworms have had the edge in the bait department judging by customers reports.

Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** mentioned the fine fishing which has been the rule between Heckscher and Bay Shore but also put in a word for the action to the west. He mentioned West Island (Amityville) and Squaw Island along with Massapequa Cove as producing decent action with flatties in the ¾ to 1 poiund class. Mussels and worms working best to the west and chumming is a must. For white perch fans, Mike Suggested they try behind the Babylon Times Square Store.

West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

The spring flounder season continues to progress in orderly fashion, although it has been damped a bit towards the end of the week with the high winds and rain that dumped on us. All evidence is that the flatties are scattered throughout the bays and inlets in solid numbers and all that is need is a few days of good weather for the floundering to really explode.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

It was 51 flounder in the bucket for Carmine Ferraro and two pals working Massapequa Cove out of **Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station** on Sunday. Worm and mussel bait with good shots of chum were the ticket on a flooding tide for mixed fish averaging 1 to 1¼ lbs. The station had 10 boats out Sunday and all returned with fish. One boat had 35 flounder working on the west side of the drawbridge with fish 1½ to 2 lbs. Lots of fish around said Art Wright of the station located in Seaford.

The word from **Pop's Fishing Station** in Seaford is of on again, off again catches with the better, more experienced anglers definitely catching flatties. Ernie Welsh, Walt Eckoff and Joe Paradiso totalled 25 nice flounder to 1¾ lbs. on worms and mussels Sunday fishing Squaw Island. The turn of tide was the best. Other producing spots this week have been

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Jay York decked this 50.3 pound cod aboard the Freeport open boat, "Super Spray II." It was weighed at Reynold's Reef Fishing Station.

Massqpequa Cove, buoys 13 and 14 south of four corners and on the east side of the Wantagh bridges.

Seaford tackle man **Lon Wanser** said that those customers of his who fished over the weekend had decent catches off the Jones Beach piers aNd from Florence Beach on worms and mussels on both tides.

The Jones Beach Piers were also the first spot to be mentioned as having produced mixed sizes of flatties on the weekend by Scott over at **Merrick Tackle** in Bellmore. Worm-mussel combos were particularly effective advised Scott.

As for the **Freeport** boats, the only boat presently codfishing, the **Starstream II** told of 40 cod from 5 to 15 lbs. for 20 fares Sunday even with the big groundswell and the roiled up bottom. Even this eventually modulated toward the end of the day. The catch was caught while anchored over a wreck, all on bait. Starting this Saturday, the boat will begin special offshore cod and pollock wreck trips which will sail Saturdays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4AM. Call for detailed information. On the other days of the week, Captain Richie Kessinger will sail his regular 5AM schedule for cod.

Skipper Mike Dannon of the **Capt. Lou Fleet** will start both boats flounder fishing Saturday. There will be parties on both boats to kick off the season with refreshments for all fares. And Mike says come on down.

Flounder fishing was good Wednesday and even better on Thursday said Capt. Tony of the **Miss Freeport**

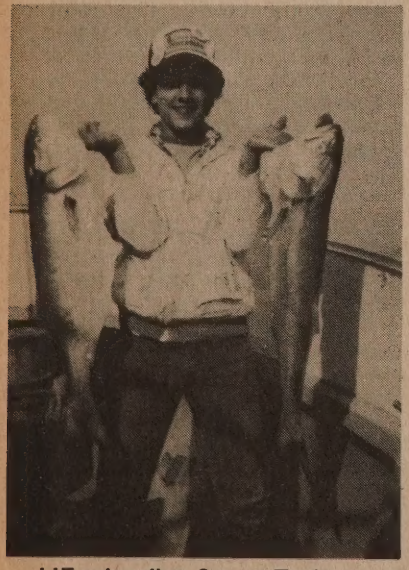
II. Most of the action was in Jones Inlet and a lot of fares had between 15 and 18 flatties to 2 lbs. The rest of the week had to be classified as poor due to the super winds and rain.

The **Super Spray II** has commenced its two half-day flounder trips daily and fares sailing the trips on Sunday had fair catches of good sized fish on worm and clam bait.

A wee bit to the south out of Point Lookout, Captain Ron Murray of the **Miss Point Lookout** reported that catches of flounder were on the increase in the early part of the week, with Thursday the best day of the week, with high hooks in the 20s both trips. Jhn Nictico and Bob Catorski had a bucket of flounder between them along with the pool fish Thursday morning. Mike Kleber of the Bronx had 20 nice flatties all by himself on Thursday's afternoon trip. Len Garner took the pool with a 2¼ lb. flounder. All trips were weathered out Friday and Saturday. Best catches have been at the change of tide. Ron says a couple of nice days in a row should really give the fishing a boost. Mussels and worms have been best, fishing back creeks, Garretts Lead, Reynolds Channel and Jones Inlet.

Ed's Fishing Station said he had quite a few boats out through Thursday which did very well in Swift Creek, Seadog Creek, and buoys 17 to 21 in Reynolds Channel. Mixed fish were taken from 3/4 to 1¾ lbs. Worms and mussel chum were the key with best catches from halfway up the tide to halfway down the tide. Ed says there are a lot of fish moving around in the area.

Captain Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** has rescheduled his open cod trip to this Sunday, March 27th and states that he still has a few open weekends in April available.



LIF subscriber Steven Tuchman shows a brace of teen-sized blues taken last summer aboard the Freeport open boat, "Capt. Al."

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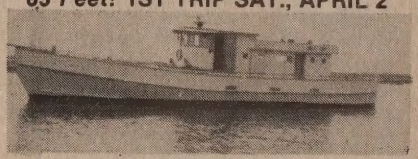

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NEW YORK BIGHT

Over in Atlantic Beach Big Al at **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** says some flounder are being caught at Duck Point, off the Long Beach firehouse on worms and mussels, with fish averaging a pound and going up to 1½ pounds. Fish are clean, no mud. Catches are spotty and you have to work for your fish, but they can be had on both tides.

The word from Capt. Clem of the open boat **Commodore** out of Island Park is that fairly good catches were Sunday with a lot of big flounder. Catches averaged 8-10 fish a man for 26 fares Sunday, with the pool winner tipping the scales at 2½ lbs. Debs Inlet was where it all happened from the top of the flood through the change best, though there was a pick to be had all over the bay. Mussels have been working best, followed by worms and clam bait.

Charlie at **Beckman's Tackle in** Lynbrook felt that the weekend action slowed down and not too many people actually went out flounder pounding due to the weather. However, Charlie says, the fish are definitely still there and once the bottom settles down, catches should be excellent. The store has all the flounder baits and chum in stock, ready to go.

To the west in East Rockaway, we are informed by **Skippy's Bait and Tackle** that Pete Nee aN Andy Young of Franklin Square and Ken Glaser of Elmont pulled 49 flounder in the Hog Channel vicinity on mussels Sunday, incoming water best. Fish were mostly thin on bait and a lot of chum. Also fishing Sunday were Valley Stream anglers Mike Ferrara and Rich Born with the duo totalling 41 flounder out of Ho Channel. In general, said Skippy, the fish are there, thin but getting fatter and with some good weather catches should be very good.

Long Beach Sports Marina called and advised that nice flounder fishing is already under way throughout Reynolds Channel and that their skiffs are in the water and ready to roll. Flounder are being caught off both the North and South channel bridges spanning Jamaica Bay, advised **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle**. Both tides are producing on worm, mussel and clam bait.

The flounder boats out of Sheepshead Bay have been doing very well weather permitting. From the **Dorothy B VII** we learn of an excellent Sunday with 37 flounder being high hook, fish to 2 lbs., averaging a pound. Captain Kevin said that there's good flattie action as long as the weather doesn't put the screws on it.

Aboard the **Zephyr** Captain Butch told of excellent flounder catches on days when the weather was good, working the Shrewsbury River and Sandy Hook bay to the tune of 25-30 flounder average a man, fish to 2½

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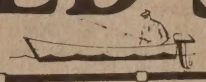
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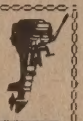
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lbs. On Sunday, 35 fares had roughly 2,000 fish, mostly 1½ pounders, fishing the aforementioned spots also known as the Navesink grounds. Mussels worked best.

Captain Tom of the **Elsie K III** also had decent floundering Sunday, fishing Sandy Hook Bay and the Navesink River on the slack. Fish went to 1½ lbs. and were mostly all keepers. Catches averaged 15 to 20 fish a man, with mussels the best bait. Tom advised that he is sailing every day now.

Flounder are also the word from **Santo's Sport Shop** in Staten Island with best areas being Great Kills, Annandale, and New Dorp. Fish are running 3/4 to 1 lb. on worms in the flats, and better results are achieved with chum.

North Shore REPORT

with Marty Garrell

A rainy week and a windy weekend made reports somewhat spotty for the second week in a row, but anglers in sheltered western waters continued to do a job on small flounder and keepers to 1 lb. The eastern waters continue to be a question mark, but optimists feel that an early season will be in the offing there as well.

WESTERN SOUND

John Palmieri at **John's** in New Rochelle said that both the New Rochelle and Mamaroneck shore lines were just starting to produce. The **Klondike** began sailing on Saturday.

LIF subscriber Charles Romero caught these eight stripers to 16 pounds on December 23 from an unspecified hot water outflow.

POINT LOOKOUT

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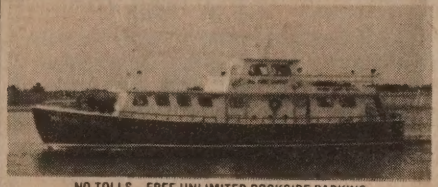

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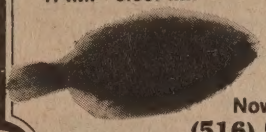

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Youngsters Robert Abatemarco, Jr. and Dom Amendolaro, Jr. had a ball during their January trip to Stuart, Fla. Each kept one sail for mounting. Subscriber photo.

The shop is open Sunday till 2 and all day Saturday with plenty of worms and clams going across the counter.

Jack Rumpf at **Jack's** on City Island felt that the shore and docks around the Orchard Beach lagoon were good bets. The Station had boats ready to go, but none were out over the weekend because of the weather.

Dave Watt at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** saw a lot of fishermen out on Sunday with good fishing on incoming water and decent catches of 1/2 to 3/4 lb. flatties. A catch of 8-10 fish per person off the Pier at Pryble, in Dodoris Pond, or around Morgan's and the Landing Breakwater was not unusual. A chum mixture of corn, croutons, and mussels was supposed to be this season's best.

The **North Star** from City Island was still working in Oyster Bay with catches of 15 or more per fare. Dom Cerbone's **Apache** sailed into the same area and felt there were plenty of fish, enough to keep 40 anglers happy on a crowded Sunday. Catches to 25 per fare were mentioned. Both Cerbone of the Apache and Pete Anderson of the North Star were sailing their craft on a daily basis.

Joe Ferrara of the **Ebb Tide III** from City Island said that small crowds of anglers like Saturday's could be kept busy with 25-40 fish per person, w hile a big Sunday crowd dropped the numbers by roughly a factor of two. Ferrara went up to Huntington Bay on Sunday and found the fish there as well as in Oyster Bay. The sheltered bays are a pleasure, even on windy days. Worms are the norm; a piece of corn and 1/4 inch piece of wriggler are good for 4-5 fish per bait. Fish seem to be over the stirred bottoms behind the oyster dredges.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Four Winds in Huntington said that there are a lot of small flounder with occasional half pound fish off the docks inside the harbor. Cold Spring Harbor is a good bet, but Bayville hasn't reported yet. George Valentine is closing the shop at 12 on Sundays for a couple of weeks until the action picks up in April.

Ronnie Ferraro at **Ronnie's** felt that the weather was a rerun of last year, and suggested that small boats try Lloyd's, and Duck Harbors in the lee of land for their flatties. There are some small bass to around 3-4 lbs. off Lilco and Crab Meadow on the northwest wind. Worms on the bottom along with Rebels, and small Tri-Fins are worth a try. Ronnie's is open Sundays until 2.

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** told us that the two dock in Northport was ready to cave in on Sunday, with anglers shoulder to shoulder. The scene seemed reminiscent of the Shinnecock Canal. There are lots of thin fish a cast off the dock, and anglers need not chum. Sand City and the beach off Eaton's were also recommended. Bowman's will be stocking a full supply of clams, worms and mussels this week.

Dick's at Mount Sinai was advising the shallow waters around Stony Brook as the best bet. Dick Brown was frankly suprrised by the early start to the season and the large size of the fish. A lot of 1 lb. and a few 1¼ lb. flatties were mixed with the catches taken between the rains. Dick's is open until around 2-3 on Sundays.

Mrs. Henry Olsen informed us that the **Captain Hank** will be making her first trip on April 15 according to current plans.

NORTH FORK

Ed Kopack at **Warren's** in Aquebogue had seen some good sized flounder in the Peconic River mouth and mentioned a few catches from the creeks off the Mattituck Inlet. Kopack also felt that Rose's was worth a try if you could get there. Warren's is open till 3 on Sundays with a full menu of bait.

Sal Loria was still waiting for the weather to break so that a number of anglers could get off Robin's Island for the early Peconic flounder. **Captain Marty's** had one boat out on Sunday, but expects a better week as soon as the rains move out.

Jim Dunkirk put the first three boats of the season in the water at the **Port of Egypt** on Sunday. Trying to get out of the wind, the craft were working inside Beixedon and on the lee side of Conklins.

East Marion reports were filtering in to Art White at the **A.P. White Bait**

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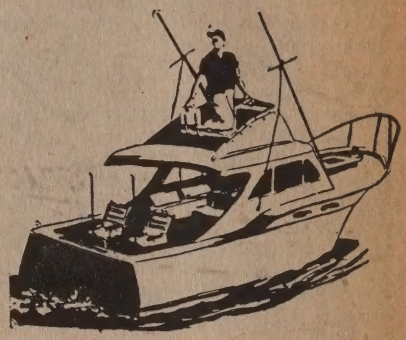
Shop in Greenport. White is carrying a full selection of bait but has informed us that mussels are scarce this year and are more expensive to dig.

Mrs. Dave Brennan told us that Dave was shooting for an April 1st start with the **Peconic Star** from Greenport, but may start earlier.



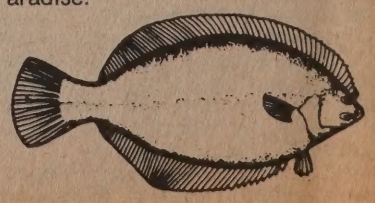
MORICHES BAY: Flatfisherman's Paradise

(Continued from page 17.)

the flats and the flats around buoy 29 are usually red hot. This is where the fish stack up before moving back offshore. The fishing is fast and the fish are frisky! The flounder's arrival date here can vary. For instance, in 1980, there were plenty of fish around 29 as early as May 2. In 1981, the fish didn't really take hold there until sometime between May 14 and 21. As for 1982, I noticed no real concentration of flounder around buoy 29 as late as May 27; although I heard they knocked them dead there in June and into July. Could that "surprise" blizzard we had last April delayed or detoured the fish's arrival? I don't know. Anchor 100 feet due south or 100 to 200 feet southwest of buoy 9.

June: There will probably still be enough fish on the flats to keep you interested. Although the fish get smaller as the month wears on, sometimes as the day wears on. My average, in June, has been roughly a one-third keeper ratio.

Outside of any drastic weather, your chances of pulling a meal or two from specified areas at specific times are good. I rely completely on this area timetable, and my log will show my skunkings are few and far between. My log also shows some days I didn't catch as many as expected. While you're out there keep an eye open as to how the other boats are doing. Chances are they will be doing plenty, here in "Flatfish Paradise."



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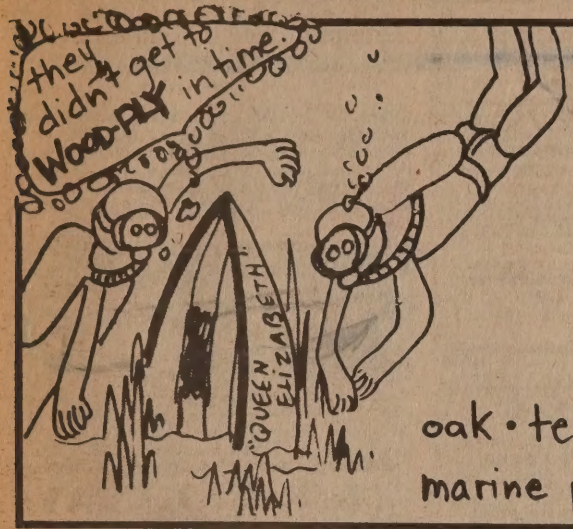

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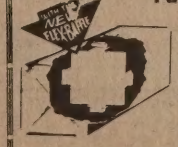

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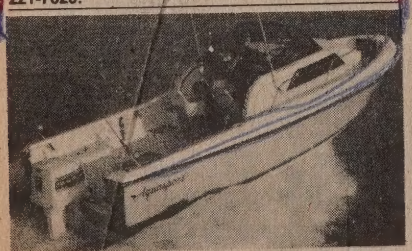

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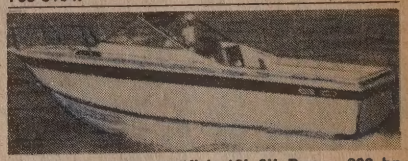

BAHA 26' open sportfish 10' 6" Beam, 260 hp OMC Inboard; 1½ to 1 reduct. Si-Tex 767C Loran, Si-Tex paper recorder, VHF, AM/FM cass., trim tabs, full canvas w/backdrop, dual batt. & switch, Ritchie comp., rod holders, downrigger. Permanent S/S swim ladder, Porta-Potty. Purchased Sept. 1981, 75 hrs. $20,500. Anxious to sell. Bus: 212-366-7191. Home: 516-223-8676.

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Grady White 20' 4" Overnighter walkaround cuddy 150 hp Johnson T/T battery giveaway at $13,945

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1975 Sportcraft cuddy, 135 hp Johnson. $3975

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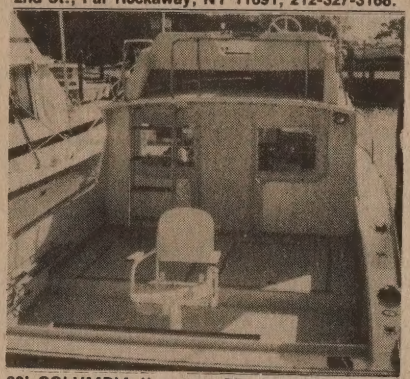
1970 11" English Whaler 1982 new 15 hp Johnson, $2350

EDDIE'S MARINE SERVICE CORP., 210 Beach 2nd St., Far Rockaway, NY 11691; 212-327-3168.



30' COLUMBIA II custom FB, FB/SF, twin 220 Palmers FWC. Sleeps 5; VHF, CB, recorder, 4 batts., chair, Halon, 20 kn. cr., at Star Island, Montauk. Ian, 668-5052. $16,800.

Excellent 6-man Charter boat & business. 1969 38' Uniflite. Soup to nuts; incl. live fish well, auto. pilot, Loran C., VHF, white line recorder & radar. Twin 235 HT 160 hp Perkins diesels, just 3-yrs.-old. Documented. Encl. hardtop FB, anchor, winch, spare shaft & props. $50,000 Firm. After 6PM. 516-623-6656.

15' Fiberglass Commodore, unsinkable Whaler-type hull; 40 hp electric start Evinrude. New Teleflex steering & batt.; galv. trailer. Plus extras. $1975. 273-9200 9AM-6PM.

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SEASON SPECIAL: Boat covers, full set, 1st quality. White on grey, Chrysler vinyl. Navy top, side curtains & back drop. Frames not incl. $275. Boats to 20'. FOREAN KUSTOM, 516-549-9489.

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FISHING TACKLE

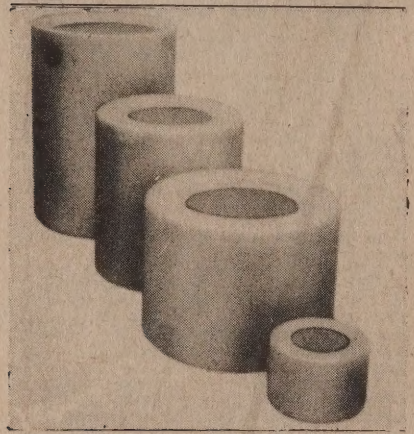
Flounder Fooler Rig. Artificial alternative to live bait. Reusable. 3/$4.50. Trial size $2.15. Box 151, Mastic Beach, NY 11951.

FOR SALE: Penn Reels, 309M, $32; 99, $30; Squidder 140, $42; 209 MS, $28; plus large assortment of Penn Reels. Shimano Bantam Mag plus, Model 251, $75; Bantam mag 50SG, $75. Ambassadeur 8600 striper, $35; Ambassadeur 5600C, $58; Cardinal 4, $35. Fenwick rods, Harnell surf rods, Ugly Stiks, Rebels, Creek Chubs, Stan Gibbs, Tri-Fin, Ava, Nordic Eels, Tackle boxes & many more items. 516-754-9276.

BUCKO'S Psarts & Service Center. We carry parts for Daiwa, Olympic, Newell, Ryobi, Penn, Zebco, Quick, Mitchell, Garcia. To order, call: 617-674-7900; or write: P.O. Box 87, Fall River, Mass. 02724.

FOR SALE: 4 matching IGFA rods; 2 - 20s; 1 - 50 & 1 - 130. All matching white blanks, brown wraps. All Aftco rollers & unibutts. All 4, $475. 201-384-2598. After 6PM.

#6 Sproat Flounder Hooks. Hand tied. 6/$1.00. AL KAPLAN, 35-63 80th St., Jackson Hghts, NY 11372.



LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure send $.25 p/h. THE CADDY CO., 57 Bayonne Ave., Dept. E, Central Islip, New York 11722; 516-234-0144.

Catch more fish—with superior designed saltwater rigs. Send for Free catalog now!! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, P.O. Box 437, Kearny, New Jersey 07032.

SALE: Almost 1/2 million hooks. Many sizes & types. Asking $9000 or Best Offer. Call: 212-465-4062.

CUSTOM HANDCRAFTED Rods. You name it; I make it. Ultra-light; offshore. Finest materials; epoxy finishes. Eves. 212-763-1787.

FOR SALE: Crack reel. Excl. cond. First $125 takes it away. 516-223-6135.

SAVE MONEY

Turn your favorite rods back to new. All types of rod repairs & wraps in stock. Custom built IGFA rods, 12, 20, 30, 50. Rods sold individually. Discounts on complete sets. Special orders accepted. 516-724-0478 after 6PM.

CATCH FISH!

As seen in The Fisherman. Linesider "Needlefish" plug. 1 oz. Colors: Olive, black, silver - $4.50 ea., 3/$12.75, plus 10% shipping/handling. NY res. add tax. Others available/ SASE for list. TACKLE MASTERS, PO Box 952, Glen Cove, NY 11542.

FREE CATALOG. Fine fresh & salt water fishing tackle at low, low prices. WEST FALMOUTH TACKLE, Box 690NY, West Falmouth, MA 02574.

REAL ESTATE

DISTRESS SALE: Three prime lots in Silver Spring Shores, Florida. $20,000 for all 3. 516-433-4427.

FOR SALE:

Keene, N.H.—4.2 wooded acres. Water & elec. access. Must sell. Asking $10,000. Call after 6PM. 516-725-3915.

FOR SALE—Fishing Station with Dockage, rental boats & motors. 516-378-7482.

WATERFRONT Summer Cottages for Sale: the south shore of Eastern L.I., town of Southampton, NY. Sandy beach, dock space, close to the ocean inlet, story book sunsets — fish galore. A great investment; great vacation location. Approx. $16,000 cash down, then $432 per month—incl. financing, taxes, insurance maint. & utilities—for a 1 bdrm, knotty pine interior unit. While they last, contact: THE CEDARS ON TIANA BAY, 30 Rampasture Rd., Hampton Bays, NY 11946, 516-728-8558. Summer rentals are available, too. 1 & 2 bdrm units. Bring your boat at no extra charge, by week or month. Be smart; make arrangements now. We have a limited number of units. You'll love beautiful Tiana Bay.

BEACH BUGGIES

1970 Ford BRONCO w/1980 302 engine. Many extras & new parts. Set up for beach. No rust. Excl. cond. $2700 Firm. After 6PM. 516-887-4413.

MISCELLANEOUS

Introducing the Stainless Steel Butt: at last, a fisherman's dream come true. The butt you've always wanted is now available in high-strength stainless steel. Why use inferior wooden butts that break & cause expensive losses of valuable equipment. Upgrade your equipment with this superior butt for the following reasons: all stainless steel construction; more durable than aluminum; streamlined design; a price every fisherman can afford; sold directly by the L.I. manufacturer; prices from $34.95. Custom models can be made to customer specification. Send for our free brochure today. R&R TACKLE COMPANY, P.O. Box 871, Lynbrook, NY 11563.

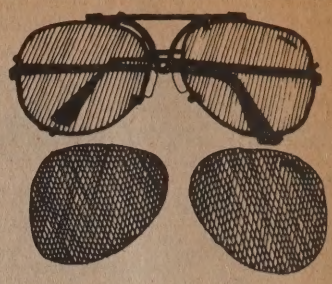
FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN—Available for charters, water deliveries, transfers, individual trips; boat handling instruction. 516-795-4498.

MAGIKOTE: Glass clear, saltwater proof coating. Spray, dip, roll or brush on. Adheres permanently to all surfaces. Use as is; no mixing, thinning or stirring. $37.95 per gallon, incls. shipping. Check or M.O. to: REGAL PRODUCTS, P.O. Box 587, Huntington Sta, NY 11746.

CASIO WATERSPORT WATCHES

People who take to the water will surely take to these digitals, on the deck of a boat or below the waves. The new Model W-24, pictured, is water resistant to 50 meters/150' below the water. Features incl: stopwatch, hourly/half hourly time signals, daily alarm, countdown timer w/repeat, calendar, micro-light for night-viewing, 5-Yr. Lithium batt. Now only $22.95. Model W-300 watersport incls. all the features of the W-24 & is good to a depth of 100 meters, comes with a 7-Yr. Lithium batt. Now only $29.95. New Model TS-1000 watersport thermometer watch. Features incl. depth to 100 meters, thermometer with C°/F° scale, thermo-alarm, daily alarm, hourly time signal, stopwatch, world time, 12/24 hr. format, micro-light. Now only $39.95. Model LW601C Ladies 50 meter watersport, features incl. daily alarm, hourly time signal, countdown alarm, calendar. Now only $30.95. Model LW-5 50 meter ladies watersport, features hour, minute, month, date, seconds display. 7-Yr. Lithium batt. Now only $14.50. Add $2.50 UPS & hdl. for ea. watch ordered. All watches come with 1-Yr. warranty from Casio. Send check or M.O. to: INTER-AMERICA TRADING CORP., 16 W. 22nd St., Suite 200A, Dept. LF-2, New York, NY 10010

BEACH Buggies, Boat Trailers—welding, rust removed, undercoating & painting, by professionals. Free estimates; 10% discount with Ad. Call BODYWORKS, 212-372-9844.



SHADES OF PERFECTION FOR $7.50

These glasses only look like the Carrera/Porsche glasses that are being sold for $179 in the Gold frame & $119 in the Black frame. But you could have fooled me & most of your friends. These glasses feature a lightweight aviator style frame finished in black or gold plate. A special hinge in the center allows for quick replacement of the extra pair of lenses. Comes w/grey lenses & an extra pair of brown lenses. Complete w/case. The best part is the price. #527-Gold Frame. #528-Black Frame ea. $7.50 plus $2 UPS & Hdlg. Send check or M.O. to: INTER-AMERICA TRADING CORP., 16 W. 22nd St., Suite 200A, New York, NY 10010.

GRUNDEN AND HELLY foul weather gear, polar jackets & boot liners in stock, plus work boots from Poland under $20. Full Grunden suit in international orange or dark green. $79. HEINE MARINE ELECTRONICS, 250 Montauk Hwy, Islip. 516-581-0194.

FISHING BUDDY SERVICE

Tired of fishing alone? Fishing getting too expensive? Send for free information. Box 151, Mastic Beach, N.Y. 11951.

LOBSTER POTS!! Now on L.I. Vinyl coated steel wire lobster pots made to order. Outfishes wood pots, lasts 3 times longer for the same price! Kits or assembled. Frank, 516-724-3372. Jim, 516-928-9603.

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Moriches Inlet. Share cost; rigs furnished. Mako with Loran. Write: Box 404, Moriches, NY 11955.

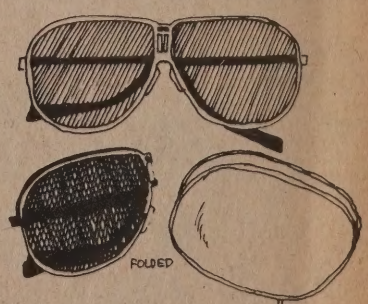
NON-SLIP Grip Gloves—Long-wearing. Multiple gripping dots stop slipping. Used by commercial filleters/fish handlers. OLDE SALT, 1925 W. 3rd St., Bklyn, NY; 212-998-8794. $2.98 pair incl. tax & postage.

Boats polished, compounded & waxed. Also available—bottoms painted & stripped. Free estimates. HIGHLAND MARINE, 516-587-7567.

WANTED—WANTED—WANTED

Am writing a book on fishing; would like any unique or funny fishing story, of any nature. Please send stories, long or short to: Joseph Gibbons, Jr., 22 E. Beach Dr., Lindenhurst, NY 11797. Credit will be given if wanted.

BOAT LETTERING: Have an idea? Need one? Creative & professional work. Call Richie, 516-981-8353.



FOLDING SUNGLASSES

If you like the sporty compact look, I am sure that our lightweight folding sunglasses will appeal to you. Available w/Black or Gold tone frame, each in its own zippered case. #525-Gold; #526-Black. $6.50 plus $2 UPS & Hdlg. Send check or M.O. to: INTER-AMERICA TRADING CORP., 16 W. 22nd St., Suite 200A, New York, NY 10010.

"Mount That Fish" special winter flounder skin mounts w/plaque & brass name plate. $35. INWOOD TAXIDERMY, 516-239-7716.

FOR SALE: New, used, 4WD, catering Long Island fishermen. Priced right. Bill Potts, 516-588-1800.

LORAN C Numbers to trade. I have approx. 150 numbers, in N.Y. Bight area. Looking for #s for rocks, wrecks, reefs. Strictly confidential; for my own use. 212-646-5143.

FANTASTIC FLORIDA KEYS FISHING
Rent Duck Key Condo. Sleeps 4. Fully furnished. Reduced rates Summer & Fall. 516-589-7005.

1970 Honda 750, 13,000 miles. Green. Runs good. Needs tuneup. $600. 283-9583.

MATE NEEDED—Seaford-based open boat. Full time. Call Eves: 516-731-2108.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

Summer Dockage & Winter Storage avail. Deep, wide, picturesque river in Copiague. 20 mins. to Frank & Dick's. Full service: Mercruiser, OMC & Volvo. Used boats for sale. Check us out. 519 Marina, 519 Boatyard. 516-842-1579 & 516-789-8789.

Finger Slip Moorings. Five mins. from Reynolds Channel Inlet. All facilities. Far Rockaway Boat Club, 212-471-7180.

GRUNDEN Of Sweden—Commercial foul weather gear. Briggs hooded jacket - $35.95. Clipper trousers - $39; Herkules trousers - $44. N.Y. Residents add tax. Add $2 shipping. OLDE SALT LIMITED, 1925 West 3rd St., Bklyn, NY. 11223. 212-998-8794.

On Water Boat Deliveries: U.S.C.G. licensed captains. Marine Survey Service, 516-842-5928 or 516-757-7041.

BAIT—Sea Clams by the bushel, wholesale or retail. BRIELLE BAIT CO., 201-899-0832/8531. 6-10PM.

DISCOUNT MARINE SUPPLIES
Army/Navy surplus goods. Send for Free Catalog. 1st quality tools at wholesale prices. COOPER'S GALLEY, W. Water St., next to Post Office, Sag Harbor, NY 11963; 516-725-0661.

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Shane's Marine

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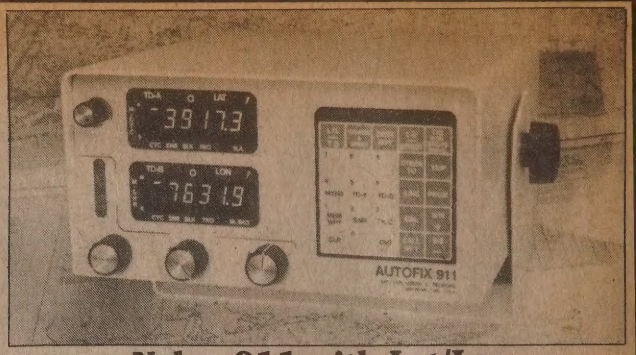


Nelco 911 with Lat/Lon

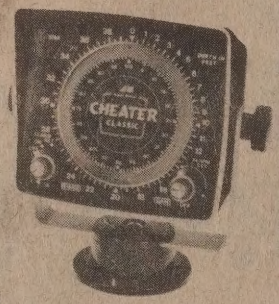
- Permanent memory of 40 waypoints and six trip plans.
- Bearing in degrees, distance in nautical miles, time to destination
- Speed in knots
- Steering data in left/right or compass course to steer
- Easy to operate - easy to understand
- Proven performance! **Mfg. list $1775.00** **$1250.**

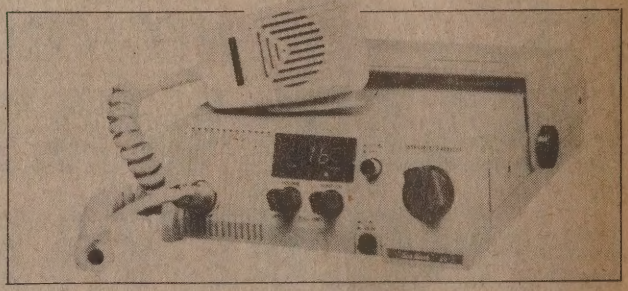
New Aquameter "Cheater Classic" with Alarm

The ultimate in flasher depth sounders. Three ranges 0-40 ft., 0-100 ft. and 0-240 ft. Allow for superior shallow water accuracy and offshore excellence with 50% more output than other flashers. Alarm can be set for fish finding or as a depth warning. Complete with swivel tilt-mount and high speed 200KHZ transom mount transducer. A/M 376A

Mfg. list $355.00

Sale $189.95





The "Sea Hawk 24" VHF Marine Radio

A top quality fully synthesized VHF marine radio at a **GREAT** price. A precisely tuned 24 channel unit in a non-corrosive plastic case with adjustable mounting brackets. 4 weather channels, LED display, channel 16 priorty override. Aniden

Sea Hawk 24 radio only — List $349.95 — **199.95**

Sea Hawk 24 w/Shakespeare 6db 8 ft. antenna & mount — List $428.85 — **229.95**

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Spring Savings on Interlux & Pettit Antifouling Paints!

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Most Popular Bottom Paints

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List $27.65 Qt. **Sale $15.21 Qt.**
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40%OFF
Pettit Unepoxy
List $25.95 Qt. **Sale $15.57 Qt.**
List $95.95 Gal. **Sale $57.57 Gal.**

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Seawater Temperature System

Compact, rugged and designed for flush mounting in console or bulkhead - every serious sportfisherman knows how valuable this instrument can be. 3 digit sunlight readable LCD with 1/10 degree increments. Can display actual seawater temperature in Farenheit or Celsius. Complete with bronze thru-hull sender. Dytek #1000

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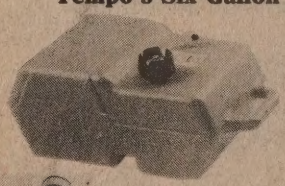
Tempo's Six Gallon Portable Gas Tank



Quickly becoming the most popular portable tank on the water. Professionally designed of seamless one piece high density polyethylene. It won't dent, rust or corrode. Easy to carry. Easy to stow. Adaptors available for direct Johnson, Evinrude or Mercury assemblies. Tempo 6 gal.

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Stainless Steel Removable Rod Holders

Specially designed with a mounting plate that will not get in your way. Trolling rods can be set for a wide spread. Heavy stainless steel construction with a protective vinyl liner. Easy removal for security and various mounting applications.

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Shane's

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The commercial and serious sportfisherman's foulweather gear. Guaranteed **100% waterproof**. All temperature flexible. Resistant to abrasion, oil and most chemicals. Hooded jacket and bib style trousers. Both machine washable. Available in yellow or green.

Sizes: S, M, L, XL

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